CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

HowNiKan

People of the Fire

July (Abtenibne Gises) 2012, vol. 33 issue 4

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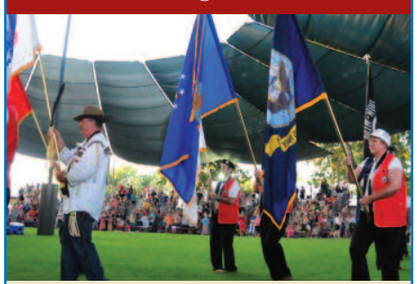
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Nation dedicates new Eagle aviary during Festival

Citizen Potawatomi Nation: Eagles of our Own

In late June 2012, the Shawnee-based Citizen Potawatomi Nation initiated a proud chapter in its history. The CPN became one of fewer than a half-dozen American Indian tribes across the United States with a facility to treat and rehabilitate injured eagles and other raptors, some of whom will be released back into Nature and some which will remain very long-time residents of the aviary.

Additionally, the aviary will be a source of eagle feathers for religious and ceremonial purposes for the 32,000-plus CPN members in Oklahoma and across America.

Unlike cages, an aviary allows birds a larger living space where they can fly. These are sometimes known as flight cages, and they are built to simulate a natural environment. I had the opportunity to talk with CPN tribal member Jennifer Randell about the new CPN Eagle Aviary, touching on how the idea came to the tribe. Randell said, "Life is definitely a journey, and I will tell you about a part of mine."

In 2007, CPN member Shiree Randell suddenly, unexpectedly walked on. In honor of the family, an eagle feather was presented. That single feather sent Jennifer Randell, her daughter, and Bree Dunham, who had become like a daughter to Shiree, on a journey. They tracked eagles all over Oklahoma that winter … as an outlet for their grief.





At left, two of the eight eagles who are enjoying a new home at the CPN Eagle Aviary soak in some sun. At right, Dr. Benjamin Tuggle, Southwest Region Director for the Fish and Wildlife Service, presents the freshly-signed federal aviary permit to Chairman John 'Rocky' Barrett.

They had spent many summers on the Illinois River in and around Tahlequah, Oklahoma. That is it where Shiree's mother, Beverly Hughes had always felt at peace and closest to the Creator. They all had a desire to return to the river in winter, when the eagles fish from those banks that they played on during their summer trips to Tahlequah.

In December 2007, they bought a camera. With that goal in mind, they set out to photograph eagles. At their camp in the mountains near Tahlequah, Elephant Rock owners Rodd and Susan Foster directed them to several places along the river for eagle viewing.

They had arrived along with a cold snap that sent bald eagles looking for unfrozen hunting grounds; their timing was perfect. Seemingly everywhere they went, there were eagles in abundance. Randell and Dunham sat happily in bone-chilling cold and freezing drizzle, dawn to dusk, sharing time with the magnificent creatures.

On their last night there, they drove down to the river one last time and spotted a fully-grown adult bald eagle with a striking white head and white tail perched just across the river. Not wanting to disturb her, they drove slowly down the bank, stopping to exit the truck behind a stand of tall winter grass.

The eagle had noticed them, but didn't

See EAGLE AVIARY on page 20

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Walking On

Leo 'Gene' Spalding



Leo 'Gene' Spalding, 70, of Pleasant Hill, Iowa passed away after an epic battle with lung cancer on Friday, May 11, 2012 while surrounded by his loved ones. He was born on September 23, 1941 in Argentine, Kansas.

Gene graduated from Kansas University in 1963 and married Jo Anne 'Charlie' Tompkins in 1972. He went on to pursue a career in sales at Maytag. During his 37 years at Maytag, he was dedicated to mentoring many colleagues throughout their careers. Both of his sons, Gene and David, made their father proud by following him into the sales profession.

After retirement, Gene took off his watch and embarked on his second career as a retired professional golfer and never missed a tee time. His love of the game was passed on to his first grandson, Carter.

When not on the golf course, Gene found time to be very active in the Pleasant Hill community. He enjoyed spending time with his fellow Mustangs, cheering on KU. He founded the "Boys of Summer" traveling golf group. He was also a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Gene will be remembered for his dynamic personality, his passion for his family, and always making people feel special. He loved history, especially the Civil War, crossword puzzles, and the quest for the perfect BBQ ribs.

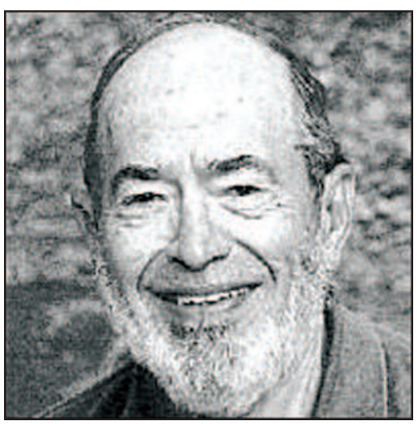
Even in his passing, he continued to help people by donating his eyes in the hope that they will help a fellow golfer find his ball or wordsmith finish the crossword.

Gene is survived by his wife Charlie; two sons, David and Gene; favorite daughter in-law, Andrea; brother and lifelong friend Dave and his wife Pam; and two grandsons, Carter and Derek. He will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Gene's family would like to express their gratitude for the respect and compassion extended by the nursing staff at Powell 3 and the John Stoddard Clinic, especially Amy B.

A celebration of life party was held at the Copper Creek Clubhouse in Pleasant Hill on Sunday, June 3, 2012 from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be directed to the Gene Spalding memorial fund at Valley Bank, 1290 Copper Creek Drive, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327.

Col. Cleveland S. Peeke



Col. Cleveland S. Peek, USAF Ret., 79, of Wellesley, Massachusetts, passed away on March 17, 2012, surrounded by Sarah, his wife of 52 years, and his two children, Jilian and Dean.

'Cleve' as he was known to his family and friends, grew up in Lansing, Michigan and joined the military in 1951. He graduated from Arizona State University with a B.S. Degree in Mechanical Engineering. Cleve had a distinguished military career in a variety of critical and high-profile positions while serving his country for more than 26 years.

When he retired from the Air Force in 1977, Colonel Peeke was the Deputy Commander for Maintenance for the 89th Military Airlift Wing at Andrews Air Force Base. He had full responsibility for ensuring the operational readiness of the Air Force's entire fleet of executive aircraft, including Air Force One used by the President. In addition to managing special air missions for the President, the 89th Special Missions also provided transportation to the highest-ranking civilian and military leaders of the country including the Cabinet, Congress, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

During the Vietnam conflict, Cleve served as the Chief of Maintenance for the famed 'Jolly Green Giant' Air Rescue and Recovery Unit. In this capacity, he ensured that the critical combat search and rescue missions were flawlessly executed. Through his tireless efforts, many downed aircrew members were rescued in a variety of hostile environments. In recognition of his effort in a combat environment, he was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service.

Cleve's career did not stop after his retirement from the military. He continued through his mid-70s as a consultant on large government defense and transportation programs.

Cleve loved sports and was very happy about the two recent Boston Red Sox World Series wins. He loved playing golf and leaves behind a valued set of golf friends in Wellesley and Boca Raton, Florida. Cleve and Sarah spent winter months in Boca escaping the Boston cold and enjoying their many Florida friends.

Cleve was the proud father of, and is survived by, his two children and their significant others whom he also considered his children: Jilian L. Peeke and John E. Ball and Dean R. Peeke and Ms. Quyen M. Diep. Cleve is also survived by his sister Cathy Short; brothers-in-law Henry Short and George Teller; sisters- and brothers-in-law Margaret and Thomas Barron, Joy Renjilian and Don Burgy, and Josh and Dan Gough; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Cleve was preceded in death by his parents, George and Ione Peeke, and his beloved sister Barbara Ann Teller.

The family would like to thank Circle of Caring, Hospice of the Good Shepherd, for everyone who helped Cleve stay at home during the final days of his illness. The family would also like to thank the Cancer Center at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center for helping Cleve demonstrate that a prognosis is just a prognosis and not a reflection

HOWNIKAN

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of the patient who fights it and the doctors who help with the fight.

A private memorial was held for direct family. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider charities that directly support Pancreatic Cancer research, such as Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Friends of Dana Farber Cancer Institute, or Lustgarten Foundation.

Michelle Lynn Arnold

Topeka, Kansas - Michelle Lynn Arnold, 33, of Topeka, Kansas passed away on May 28, 2012 at her home. She was born on February 7, 1979 in Topeka, the daughter of Robert and Dorothy (Griffith) Arnold. She attended Silver Lake, Kansas Schools and Friends University. Michelle was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

She is survived by her parents, Bob and Dorothy Arnold; her daughter, Alexandria; her sister, Nicole; and her nephews, Aaron and Nicholas.

Graveside services were conducted at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 1, 2012 at Shipshee Cemetery west of Mayetta, Kansas. Memorials may be given to Alexandria's Educational Fund c/o Mercer Funeral Home, P.O. Box 270, Holton, KS 66436. To leave a special message for the family, visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

Mary Elizabeth McCarty



On May 22, 2012, Mary Elizabeth McCarty, our precious mother, passed away peacefully at age 80, surrounded by her family members and friends. Mary always thought of others first in her loving, most unselfish way. Her positive attitude was an inspiration everyone who knew her. She was born on October 16, 1931.

Mary was a graduate of St. Mary's High School in Oklahoma City and attended the University of Oklahoma. She worked at the Oklahoma House of Representatives for more than 40 years,

She was preceded in death by her father, William M. Smith; her mother, Mildred Kate (Boland) Smith; her husband, The Honorable J.D. McCarty, Speaker of the House of Representatives, State of Oklahoma; and three brothers and two sisters.

She leaves her sister, Katherine Bishop; her children, Beverly Fentress and her husband Si, Elizabeth London and her husband Gary, Tracy Wagoner and her husband Brad, Willis Dickey and his wife Gayle, and the Reverend Michelle McCarty.

Mary was Grandma and Grams to Carolyn Brown, Keith Brown, Lauren London, Sam Fentress, Wes Fentress, Hunter London, Lindsay Wagoner, and Ashley Wagoner, and Great-Grandma to Braedyn Brown.

Mary was so proud of her family and her wonderful Celebration of Life was a blessing from God in so many ways! She was so excited about sharing the stories of our family's Potawatomi heritage, and so sincere in doing so.

We are the descendants of Chief Shipshewana who were relocated to Oklahoma in the late 1800s to early 1900s. Our family was so fortunate that we had the opportunity to hear of our Native American heritage from her, with stories of her sisters and brothers during the Great Depression. Her four oldest siblings attended the Checotah Indian School, and Mom, along with the two youngest, had to be adopted.

Mom was so fortunate with many open channels to know her family and the family observed that LOVE in many of the Wano stories which were shared, even as they reaffirmed our love for each other.

Our mother encouraged us to be part of The Citizen Potawatomi Nation. She supported all her children to be part of this rich history. She has archived her past stories at the Cultural Heritage Center. They will be there for future family generations.

We wish to recognize the loving care provided by Dr. Shah and his staff al the Oklahoma Heart Hospital; Autumn Bridge Hospice; Touchmark at Coffee Creek; and Mercy Hospital ICU. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Oklahoma Foundation for Cardiovascular Research, 4200 W. Memorial Rd., Ste. 510, Oklahoma City, OK 73120 or The J.D. McCarty Center, 2002 E. Robinson, Norman, OK 73071.

A memorial service was held at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, June 1, 2012 at the Hahn-Cook/Street and Draper Chapel, 6600 Broadway Extension, Oklahoma City.

Leo R. Thompson



HARRAH, Oklahoma - Leo R. Thompson, age 86, of Harrah, Oklahoma, was born on November 11, 1925, in Harrah, the son of John Albert and Naomi (Macarty) Thompson. Leo went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 in Harrah.

Leo graduated from Harrah High School. He proudly served in the US. Navy during WWII. Leo was a truck driver for many years, retiring from Lee Way Trucking Company.

He was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and a Mason. He enjoyed quail hunting, woodworking, working in the yard, taking care of his roses, and going to ball games. Leo was a regular at the Harrah Senior Center and the Potawatomi Center, where he enjoyed playing pitch and dominoes and working on puzzles.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Helen, and his parents. Survivors include two daughters and son-in-law, Cheri Stallings of Enid, Oklahoma and Toni and Chris Sears of Harrah, a son and daughter-in-law, William and Trudy Hoffman of Woodward, Oklahoma; brother and sister-in-law, Doyle and Leah Thompson of Harrah; sister, Barbara Butler of Ripley, Oklahoma; six grandchildren, Jami Gates and her husband Kirk, Kaylon Clymer and her husband Tyler, Taylor Hoffman, Taitum Hoffman, Baylee Hoffman, and Will Hoffman; four great-grand-children, Gabby Lawson, Kali Lawson, Peyton Weeston, and Hadley Gates; and many other relatives and friends.

The family received friends from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Friday May 11, 2012, at Smith Parks Funeral Service, 2039 N. Tim Holt Dr. in Harrah. Graveside services were held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 12, 2012, at Memory Lane Cemetery in Harrah. Services were under direction of Smith-Parks Funeral Service in Harrah. A guest book is available to share your memories online. Please visit www.SmithParks.com.

Jimmie Allen Amos Sr.

Jimmie Amos, 73 of Krebs, Oklahoma walked on on May 31, 2012 at Kindred Hospital in Tulsa, Oklahoma. A memorial service was held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 4, 2012 at North Town Church of Christ. Inurnment was at Indianola Cemetery in Indianola, Oklahoma.

Jimmie Allen Amos was the son of Obert and Virgie (Gregson) Amos, He was born on January 15, 1939 at Trousdale, Oklahoma. Jimmie served in the US Air Force from 1956 to 1960. He married Emma Beck on March 14, 1958 in McAlester, Oklahoma. Jimmie received an Associate's degree in law enforcement from Connors State College in Warner, Oklahoma and an Associate's degree from Eastern Oklahoma State College in drafting and design. He worked as a tool cutter and grinder and retired from Boeing in 2005 after 39 years. He was a member of the Church of Christ and the United Auto Workers. Jimmie enjoyed computer games and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife Emma of the home; daughter Cheryl Rowell and her husband, Terry, of Tulsa; his grandchildren, Ashlee Hatfield and her husband, Steve, of Overland Park, Kansas, Jillian McDaniel and her husband, Matt, of Dallas, Texas, Steven Amos and his wife, Alecia, of McAlester, Jacob Rowell of Manhattan, Kansas, Kevin Rowell of Olathe, Kansas, Joshua Amos and his wife, Anita, of Krebs, and Michael Amos of Tulsa; great-grandchildren, Daniel Amos, Alexandra Amos, Hayden Young, Isobella Amos, Kelsey Amos, and Dalton Hatfield; and numerous nieces, nephews, other family members,

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and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Obert and Virgie Amos; son, Jimmie Amos Jr., two sisters; and one brother.

Bernece (Nadeau) Philley



Bernece (Nadeau) Philley was born on May 31, 1912 in Tribbey, Oklahoma in Pottawatomie County. She was the daughter of John J. and Grace Nadeau. She walked on on Monday, March 19, 2012 at noon, with her daughter at her side.

Bernece is survived by her daughter, Bonnie Ferrell; granddaughter Rhonda Meyer; three great-grandchildren, Ricky, Courtney, and Kenny Meyer; two brothers, Ted and Ray Nadeau; and one sister, Reba Faye Shewmaker.

Bernece was granted many good years on this Earth, and always enjoyed seeing and visiting with family members and friends. She worked until she was 72 years old then retired and had many pleasurable years with her husband, traveling in their motor home and attending many pow wows, which she greatly enjoyed. She was always very proud of her Citizen Potawatomi heritage.

Bernece had a goal of living to age 100. But for 73 days she would have made it. Indeed, she came very close to her goal.

Robert Slavin

We will be known forever by the tracks we leave. - Dakota proverb

A child was born to James and Dellie Slavin on May 28, 1920 in Cleveland County, Oklahoma near Lexington, which



was part of the old Potawatomi Reservation. On May 22, 2012 at the Oklahoma Veterans Center in Norman, Oklahoma in Cleveland County, a man with a legacy many of us would envy entered into peace.

Robert Slavin, my father, finished this life on May 22, 2012. From his birthplace near Lexington to Norman it is about 25 miles. The journey to Norman was much longer and filled with experiences that involved his establishing an expanding and continuing service to individuals around the world.

He spent his early school years attending Buckhead School, where most of his 10 siblings also went to school. During the years of school at Wanette, Oklahoma High, Dad was active in sports, especially basketball. He and his brothers, Joe and George, played on the same team. At East Central State College in Ada, Oklahoma, he played basketball for most of his four years of attendance, until entering the US Navy in early 1942. After World War II, he completed a Bachelor's degree at East Central while teaching at Holdenville, Oklahoma High School. Oklahoma State University was his alma mater for a Master's degree program.

His experiences and education touched and influenced the lives of people throughout the world.

Go for a hike on the trails at the North Rim of the Grand Canyon and envision a young boy during the depression years working for the Civilian Conservation Corps, building the trail. You will meet Dad in his CCC uniform.

Look up from a Pacific Island and envision Navy planes flying by to meet the enemy during WWII. Many of those planes were flying because of the training on how to work on and repair planes provided by Petty Officer Robert Slavin.

Go out into the night by yourself in an unfamiliar part of town and discover what your emotions tell you. It is late evening in Holdenville during the 1950s. A knock comes at the door of a very small house. A request is made, "Would you referee a basketball game tonight?" "Yes," was the reply. That evening Robert Slavin was the referee at a game between two teams comprised of African-American players. Referee Slavin was the only non-black person in the building. Courage and responsibility.

Attend a major parade in New York City in the 1950s and marvel at the skill of the Elkettes, a drill team from a small town in Oklahoma - led and instructed by Robert Slavin. The drill team experience expanded the world of many young women from Small Town, USA.

Draw plans for an addition to your house. Use your tools to fit wood together to build your house or make furniture to use in the house. If you attended high school in Holdenville, Oklahoma or Dinuba, California from 1945 thru the 1980s, you might have learned your skills in the wood shop and drafting class of Robert Slavin. The skills you learned are carried with you through life.

Go fishing for salmon at "Dad's Camp on the Yurok Reservation" at the mouth of the Klamath River in northern California. Watch as a fisherman hooks a large fish in the river. Continue observing as the fish heads to the ocean. Be amazed at the five-and-a-half-foot sturgeon that is finally landed from the surf. The fish that did not get away was really large. Listen to Robert Slavin tell his unique fish story.

Watch the young couple leave the East Central State College gym after the basketball game. They leave with another young couple who are about to witness a wedding. The Justice of the Peace isn't far away. Before the evening is over, on January 10, 1942, Quantilla Ruble is Mrs. Quantilla Slavin, wife of Robert Slavin.

Much of the legacy of Robert Slavin is also of Quantilla Slavin's legacy. Living and teaching in Holdenville came about through family contacts in Hughes County, Oklahoma with the Ruble family. When the family moved to Dinuba, California, the Ruble family was nearby.

Granddaughter Michelle Slavin wrote: *The world lost a good man this week. I was lucky enough to have my grampa live up the street from me for most of my childhood. He showed me that a simple piece of wood could be made into something beautiful, picked me up after my first big car accident where I nearly totaled my mom's car, came to my softball games, and introduced me to my first pow-wow, where I learned the importance of culture in society and one's own personal history (and witnessed the original drum circle!!). I'll never forget the sight of him walking down the street with Sabrina his fat Dalmatian (yes, it's possible) on a leash in one hand and a metal detector in the other. :) Rest in Peace Grampa!*

Responses to Michelle's note came from India, Uganda, Australia, Alaska, Washington, D.C., California, Washington state, and Texas. Truly, Robert Slavin lived a life that has affected individuals around the earth.

They are not dead who live in the hearts they leave behind. - Tuscarora

Dad will be more than 180 years old before the memory of him leaves this earth. His affect on this planet will last much longer.

The sons of Robert and Quantilla Slavin wish for each of you experiences in life that you will be able to share, much like the lives of our parents that were given to us. - Robert D. Slavin, Ronald D. Slavin, Paul S. Slavin, and Clyde B. Slavin.

Joe Don Isaac 'JD' Thompson

Joe Don Isaac 'JD' Thompson, of Tulsa, Oklahoma died unexpectedly on Saturday, June 9, 2012 in Tulsa. He was 49 years old. He was born on March 10, 1963 in Tulsa, the son of Ella Thompson and Joe Castillo. JD was a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. He worked in the automotive tire industry.

He is survived by his mother, Ella (Thompson) Castillo; his father, Joe Castillo; his wife, Cindy (Hollis) Thompson; his daughters Felecia Martinez, Latasha Thompson, and Jessica Smith; his sons, Joe Thompson Jr., Dustin Thompson, Brandon Thompson, Nathaniel Thompson, Nico Castillo, and Gavan Thompson; his



sisters, Kathy Burklin and Frankie Delatorre; his brother, Joey Castillo; and nine grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 14, 2012 at First Baptist Church, 114 E. Breckenridge, Bixby, Oklahoma. Pastor Emilio Castillo Sr. officiated.

JD Thompson was cremated with his ashes given to his family.

Going Home

God looked around the cemeteries and he found an empty plot. Then, He looked down upon this Earth and saw your tired face. He put His arms around you and lifted you to rest. God's cemeteries must be beautiful; He only takes the bets.

He knew that you were suffering. He knew you were in pain. He knew that you would never get well on this Earth again.

He saw the road was getting too rough. And, the hills were just too hard to climb, so He closed your tired, weary eyes and whispered, "Peace be with you."

It broke our hearts for losing you, but you did not go alone because a part of us went with you the day that God called you home.

In loving remembrance of Joe Don Isaac 'JD' Thompson, written by Joe F. Castillo.
Love,
Mom and Dad, Ella and Joe Castillo
June 10, 2012

Thomas 'Jack' Harridge

Thomas 'Jack' Harridge, 85, who was born on May 29, 1926, passed away on February 2, 2012 in Oklahoma City. He was born in Dallas, Texas, the son of Emery and Lorene Harridge.

Jack honorably served his country in the U.S. Army. He was in the 169th Regimental



Combat Team as a heavy machine gunner in the 43rd Infantry, fighting in combat at 18 years old. Jack married Aileen Hounsel, the love of his life, and shared nearly 60 years of marriage and raising a family. He provided a warm and loving home for his family by working as a stillman at Phillips Petroleum Co., retiring after 37 years of service.

He was president of his union local, the Oil Chemical & Atomic Workers, and was also a 62-year member of Myrtle Masonic Lodge. He was a loving husband, devoted father, doting grandfather, and devout Christian, who enjoyed teaching Sunday School for many years.

The angels must still be singing and our mother beaming because a great man has entered the Kingdom of God! He will be deeply missed.

Jack Harridge was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Aileen; and brother, Don Harridge. He leaves behind his daughter, Shannon Alisa Kinder and her husband Rich; his son, Tracy Harridge and his wife Rita; his sister, Bettye Dainty; four grandchildren, Haley Renfro and her husband Brandon, Monica Pierce and her husband Cole, Austin Monjaras (Peanut), and Dallas Knight and his wife Amanda; four great-grandchildren, Jaxon, Lexy, Nevaeh, and Landon; and countless other loving family members and friends.

A special thanks to Trung, Integris South ICU staff, and Terry Vasquez.

Services to celebrate his life were held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 4, 2012, at the South Lakes Chapel. Friends may leave condolences at www.VondelSmithMortuary.com.

Lucile L. Ray



Funeral services for Lucile L. Ray, 102, of Purcell, Oklahoma were held on June 15, 2012 at the First Baptist Church in Purcell. Interment was at Hillside Cemetery in Purcell under the direction of Wilson-Little Funeral Home in Purcell. Mrs. Ray passed away Wednesday, June 13, 2012, at Norman Regional Hospital.

Lucile Lillian (Williams) Ray was born on March 2, 1910, the fifth of nine children of George S. Williams and Bertie Gertrude (Newman) Williams. She attended school in Purcell, graduating in May of 1927.

Upon graduation, she was employed for four years in the office of a Justice of the Peace and an attorney. She was then employed 11 years in the office of the County Attorney as a secretary and as a court reporter to Purman Wilson and Smith Hester. In 1942, she was employed by the Attorney General of Oklahoma as secretary to the First Assistant Attorney General. She worked there for 19 years. During World War II, Lucile volunteered with the Red Cross Center at Tinker Field and at the USO Center in downtown Oklahoma City.

She also volunteered at a number of other organizations, one of which was the Duncan Hospital Auxiliary. In April of 1951, she married A. I. 'Pat' Ray in Duncan, Oklahoma. While living in Duncan, she worked as a legal assistant for 27 years. Lucile retired in 1988 after working 61 years in the legal profession.

Back in 1964, Lucile and Pat became licensed as real estate brokers and co-owned and operated the Pat Ray Realty in Duncan. She sold the business after Pat died in 1990 and moved back to Purcell in 1992 to be near her siblings and nieces and nephews. Lucile was a gifted seamstress; she loved music and enjoyed traveling.

She was an active member of the First Baptist Churches while residing in Purcell, Oklahoma City and Duncan. She will be remembered as a wonderful sister, a special aunt and a dear friend to all those that knew her.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Pat Ray; her parents, George and Bertie Williams; four brothers, George, Leon, Sherman, and James Williams; three sisters, Rose Williams, Golda Gerhard, and Peggie O'Bryant; brother-in-law, Harry Gerhard; two sisters-in-law, Ruth Williams and Fay Williams; and a nephew, James Robert Williams.

Lucile leaves behind her brother, Bill Williams and wife, Arlene, of Purcell; sister-in-law, Sue Williams of Moore; 13 nieces and nephews; 30 great-nieces and nephews; 11 great-great-nieces and nephews; and many other family members and friends.

Memorials may be made to Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation or to the Purcell First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 665, Purcell, OK 73080.

Julia G. LaClair

Mayetta, Kansas - Julia G. (Eteeyan) LaClair/*Kwe wah quah*, 96, of Mayetta passed away on March 31, 2012 at Stormont Vail Hospital in Topeka, Kansas. She was born on May 15, 1915 on the Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation in Mayetta, the daughter of Steven and Gertrude Inez 'Birdie' (Cunningham) Eteeyan.

Julia went to government schools in Chilocco and Geneva, Oklahoma. She retired from Stormont Vail Hospital dietary department after 20 years. Julia was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, a life member of the Sullivan Indian Methodist Chapel and Shawnee County Allied Tribes, and a member of Stormont Vail Retirees.

She was an avid "Pow Wower" and helped co-found the annual Pow Wow that is held at Shawnee Lake. She was a youth

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volunteer in the USD #501 Native American Education program for many years; she was an Honored Elder at pow wows many times; and she was honored at Golden Eagle Casino by the Prairie Band Elders and staff. She was also the oldest elder of Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Kansas. She was an avid Kansas University fan; many called her KU Mom. She loved her culture and enjoyed family gatherings.

She married George James LaClair on July 2, 1935. They later divorced.

Survivors include two sons, Floyd LaClair and his wife Sarah of Topeka and George 'Smokey' LaClair of Mayetta; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by two grandchildren.

Wake services were held on Thursday evening, April 5, 2012 at the Nozhackum Brave Dance Building (8362 158th Rd., Mayetta). Burial was on the morning of Friday, April 6 in the Danceground Cemetery. Memorials may be given to the Julia LaClair Memorial Fund, c/o Mercer Funeral Home, P.O. Box 270, Holton, KS 66436. To leave a special message for the family, visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com.

Sharon Kay (Coder) Dodds

Onaga, Kansas - Sharon Kay (Coder) Dodds, 70, of Onaga, passed away on Sunday, June 24, 2012 at the Community Hospital in Onaga, after a long battle with ovarian cancer. She was born on August 18, 1941 at Manhattan, the daughter of Ralph Coder Jr. and Lorrene B. (Bryson) Coder.

Sharon graduated from Onaga High School and Kansas State University. She



taught kindergarten at Frankfort and Onaga Grade Schools. She was a member of the First Congregational United Church of Christ, in Onaga, Onaga Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, Alpha Delta Phi, and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

She married Clayton G. Dodds on September 3, 1960 in Manhattan, Kansas. Mr Dodds, of the home, survives.

Sharon was preceded in death by her parents. Other survivors include two daughters, Elizabeth Matzke and her husband Bobby of Wheaton, Kansas and Susan Ehrlich and her husband Monty of Topeka; six grandchildren, Becky Nider, Josh Boswell, Craig Boswell, Sierra Valburg, Kyle Ehrlich, and Ryan Ehrlich; and seven great-grandchildren.

Cremation is planned. A memorial service was held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 29, 2012 at the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Onaga. Burial followed in the Neuchatel Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the First Congregational Church, UCC, and may be sent in care of the funeral home, P.O. Box 312, Onaga. KS 66521. Online condolences may be made at chapeloaksfuneralhome.com.

Jan Beaubien Duncan

Jan Beaubien Duncan, 75, died on Thursday, May 19, 2011 at her home in Broomfield, Colorado after a lengthy battle with pancreatic cancer.

Born on February 11, 1936 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Jan graduated from Will Rogers High School in Tulsa and married Roger E. Duncan on December 26, 1952. She attended Tulsa Vocational College and became a Licensed Practical Nurse. The Duncans moved their family to Broomfield, in 1974.

After moving to Colorado, Jan continued to work in the medical field as clinic manager for Little Dry Creek Clinic in Arvada, and then as the practice manager for Children's Eye Physicians in Wheat Ridge. For the last 12 years, she was a surgery scheduling coordinator for Western Orthopaedics in Denver. In addition, she owned JB Silver N Stuff, a home-based jewelry and gift business for the last five years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Roger E. Duncan of Broomfield, and parents, Virgil M. Beaubien and Mary Emaline (Noland) Beaubien, both of Tulsa.

Survivors include her brother, James L. Beaubien and his wife Kay of Tulsa; a son, Marc E. Duncan and his wife Rexann of San Juan Capistrano, California; daughters Deanna Duncan-Allen and her husband Jeff of Broomfield and Paula Duncan of Aurora, Colorado; grandson Keenan Duncan-Smith of Aurora; granddaughters Katherine Sniffen and her husband Brian of Waltham, Massachusetts, Sarah Allen, of Thornton, Colorado, and Mandy Allen-Nale and her husband Dave of Westminster, Colorado; and two great-grandchildren, as well as numerous cousins, co-workers and friends.

A private, family graveside service was held at Memorial Park Cemetery in Tulsa, followed by memorial services at 2:00 p.m. on June 3, 2011 at Will Rogers United Methodist Church in Tulsa and at 11:00 a.m. on July 9, 2011 at Broomfield United Methodist Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Jan's name to the following organizations: Rocky Mountain Cancer Center Foundation, 1161 S. Vivian Street Lakewood, CO 80228; Broomfield Crossing Rotary Flowers Project, Post Office Box 691, Broomfield, CO 80038-0691; or to the charity of your choice.

Bettyrose Nutt

Bettyrose (Steinmetz) Nutt of Cedar Park, Texas was born on January 24, 1923 in Shawnee Oklahoma. She married the love of her life, Paschal Elee 'Pat' Nutt Jr., on April 25, 1941. They lived the first part of their married life in Corpus Christi, Texas, enjoying boating, seashell collecting, sewing, and raising her three daughters: Pattsy, Kathy, and Susan. In 1971, she and Pat moved to an acreage outside Sinton, Texas, where they enjoyed country life. After Pat's passing in 1984, she moved to the Austin, Texas area to be closer to her daughters and grandchildren.



In Betty's lifetime, she gave of herself in many ways. She was a devoted wife, mother, Girl Scout leader, church secretary, owner and instructor at a stitchery shop, school volunteer, and librarian of her retirement community complex. Additionally, she was a creative artist, which was evident through her amazing needlework creations.

Betty was a true matriarch. She was dignified, graceful, witty, generous, and loving always. She died peacefully on June 14, 2012, surrounded by her three daughters and four granddaughters. She leaves many friends at the Summitt of Westlake Hills and Lakeline Oaks Retirement Communities.

Betty was preceded in death by her mother, Ruby Wickens Steinmetz; her father, Charles R. Steinmetz; her brother Harold Steinmetz; and her husband Pat Nutt.

Betty's legacy lives on in her surviving loved ones: daughters, Pattsy Yancy, Kathy Lee, and Susan Rose; grandchildren, Donna Yancy Schroeder, Ronnie Yancy, Jessica Lee Gonzales, Ellen Rose, and Katie Rose; and great-grandchildren, Cody Schroeder, Clay Schroeder, Collin Schroeder, Wyatt Yancy, Peyton Yancy, Brady Yancy, and Jason Gonzales.

"The Native American Speaks"
on KGFF-AM (1450) or KOKC-AM (1520)
or www.Potawatomi.org

Rosemary (Wamego) Massey



Rosemary (Wamego) Massey went to her heavenly home on Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at the age of 68. Rosemary was born on July 23, 1943 in Claremore, Oklahoma, the daughter of William Oliver Wamego and Emma (Hunt) Wamego.

She grew up in Turley, Oklahoma and attended Catholic Schools until her senior year in high school, when she attended McClain High School. Rosemary married Larry Dale Massey on June 7, 1963 in Tulsa, and they made their home in Avant, Oklahoma. She was a homemaker, wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend.

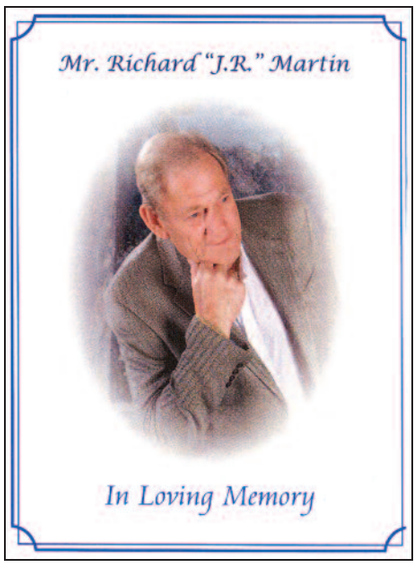
She lived a Godly life by example to those whom she contacted. Her fishing skills caused fish to tremble when she arrived. She was a wonderful cook, storyteller, and listener. She encouraged all she came in contact with and was joy-full. She loved her family and friends, and had a beautiful 50-plus years' love story with her husband Larry.

Rosemary was a faithful member of A Glorious Church Fellowship in Collinsville and was also a long-time member of the Christian Motorcycle Association and Women Alive.

Rosemary was preceded in her homegoing by her mother, father, and one brother.

She is survived by her husband Larry; her son Larry and his wife Christy of Skiatook, Oklahoma; her daughter Melody of Avant; her grandchildren; Brooke Taylor and her husband Charley, Nick Massey and his wife Ashley, Samara Rudlang and her husband Brandon, Nick Caldwell, Amanda Caldwell, Daniel Caldwell, Garrett Massey, Rebekah Massey, and Rylee Massey; great-grandchildren; Jada Massey, Ava Massey, Rocky Taylor, and Aubreana Rudlang; brothers, William Jr., Robert, and Tony; sisters, Carmelita, Sunny, Vivian, Jeannie, Cathy, Susie, Kelly, and Lisa, several nieces and nephews; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Richard 'J.R.' Martin



Richard 'J.R.' Martin, 72, was born on Sunday, October 15, 1939 in Topeka, Kansas. He walked on on Monday, June 4, 2012, in Gainesville, Georgia at age 72 years, 7 months, and 20 days. His funeral service was held on Friday, June 8, 2012, at 2:00 p.m. at Timber Ridge Baptist Church.

Officiating were the Revs. Alvin Burns, Billy Poole, Cecil Morris, Dwayne Ryals, and Greg Poole. Interment was in the White Hall Baptist Church Cemetery in Lula, Georgia. Funeral arrangements by handled by Memorial Park Funeral Home of Gainesville.

Lucille (Mars) Cartmill

Lucille (Mars) Cartmill, 95, of Farmersville, Texas passed away quietly on Friday, February 24, 2012 at Hinton House Nursing Home in Farmersville. She was a resident of Farmersville for 63 years and was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Shawnee, Oklahoma. Lucille was born on September 22, 1916 in Maud, Oklahoma, the daughter of Dennis Alexandar and Peva Mars. She is one of eight children born to this union.

Lucille was preceded in death by her parents, seven brothers and sisters and her eldest son John Cartmill. Those left to celebrate Lucille's life include her four surviving sons; Jerry Cartmill and his wife Nila of Farmersville, Obie Cartmill and his wife Donna of Princeton, Gerald Cartmill and his wife JoAnn of Brookston, James Cartmill and his wife Susan of Flower Mound; her sister Ruth of Norman, Oklahoma; sixteen grandchildren; fourteen great grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

A gathering of friends and family will be Monday, February 27, 2012 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Peter's Funeral Home in Greenville, Texas. A graveside service will be held on Wednesday, February 29, 2012 at 2pm at the Pleasant Grove Cemetery, Farmersville, Texas.

Richard Joseph 'Rich' Rezac

Richard Joseph 'Rich' Rezac of Topeka, Kansas died on Saturday, April 21, 2007 at the Midland Hospice House in Topeka. He was born on April 16, 1948 at Onaga, Kansas, the son of Clarence and Agnes Stueve Rezac.

Richard graduated from Holy Cross grade school, attended two years at Emmett, Kansas High, and graduated from St. John Vianney seminary in Elkhorn, Nebraska. Additionally, he graduated from St. Thomas seminary in Denver. Rich then taught Philosophy and Theology at a private academy. Following that, he worked as an independent contractor for several years. He moved home to care for his ailing parents in 1986. Rich then worked at Whelan's Lumber Co. for 20 years.

He was a member of Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Topeka. He was also very proud to be a Native American and a member of the Citizens Potawatomi Nation of Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Mr. Rezac was preceded in death by his parents and by an infant brother who died at birth. Richard is survived by his companion of 20 years, Terry Clouse of Topeka; brothers, Clarence Rezac and his wife Rosemary of St. Joseph, Missouri, James (Virginia) Rezac and his wife Virginia of Manhattan, Kansas, Galen Rezac and his wife Pat of Emmett, and Thomas Rezac and his wife Nancy of Emmett; five nieces; and five nephews. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 25, 2007 at most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Topeka. Interment was



in Holy Cross Cemetery in Emmett. Rich lay in state from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 on Tuesday, April 24 at Piper Funeral Home in St. Marys and after 6:00 P.M. at Most Pure Heart of Mary Church where there was a vigil service at 7:00 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Richard J. Rezac Memorial Fund and sent in care of Piper Funeral Home, 714 Maple, St. Marys, Ks. 66536. Online condolences may be sent to www.piperfuneralhome.com.

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Interesting Neighbors: CPN member Bill and wife Arlene Williams

by John D. Montgomery/The Purcell Register

Before Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Bill Williams graduated from Purcell, Oklahoma High School, he and his brother Leon were business partners. Bill has worked his entire life, starting with sweeping the floors at his father's hardware store near the age of eight. By age 17, he and Leon were running Williams Produce, located just south of downtown Purcell. the hardware store, located where American Abstract is now doing business.

Bill turned 99 on his birthday, April 26, 2012, and has had his finger in numerous career fields. Bill and Arlene Williams have been married 29 years. Initially, they were brother and sister-in-law. Bill's first wife, Faye, and Arlene's first husband, C.B. were brother and sister. "We got to know each other at Christmas time and Thanksgiving," Bill said.

C.B. died in 1978 and Faye in 1979. "We still saw each other, taking the grandkids to different things. Then one day we just decided to go on our own," Arlene said. "We never thought we'd get married," she grinned. "I would classify myself as a rounder and didn't have time to get married," Bill joked. "I didn't get married until I got back from the war. Didn't think that would be fair."

Faye and Bill tied the knot in 1935 and had one son, Billy. He is now 62 and lives in Noble, Oklahoma. Bill, who was one of nine siblings, has four grandchildren and one great grandchild. He had one stillborn sister.

Arlene has four daughters, 12 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren. Among other things Bill did in his younger days were build and repair radiators and build stills. "I built stills for folks east of Lexington, Oklahoma and in Newcastle, Oklahoma. One time the sheriff caught wind of it and went to Newcastle to get the still. He slashed a gash in it. Somehow I got it back, repaired it and sold it to the guy we'd originally made it for, for $85 and that was a lot of money back then."

Born in Purcell, Williams has done it all around here. He played football for the PHS Dragons. The 1933 squad had 16 players, Bill recalled of his senior campaign.

Arlene grew up in Washington, graduating from high school there in 1940. "When I was in school I would take a dozen eggs to sell. It would buy me a Big Chief tablet and two Pioneer pencils that we were required to have," she said.



Interesting CPN Neighbor Bill Williams and wife Arlene of Purcell, Oklahoma.

Arlene said growing up in the depression she didn't know anyone who went hungry. "We used the barter system. I'd take peanut butter in a can and potted meat to eat at school."

She worked as a travel agent, ran a beauty salon, and sold Merle Norman Cosmetics for 30 years. Bill also worked at the prison in Lexington for eight years, running the canteen and managing the inmates' money in a bank there. "Years later when we would be traveling, the former prisoners would come up to Bill and tell him about their life," Arlene said.

"I never had any trouble with the prisoners, just the employees," Bill said. "That's because he was as tough as they were," Mrs. Williams chimed in.

The son of George S. Williams and Birdie Newman Williams, Bill was born in 1913. By high school he was playing every position in the line for the Dragons except center. "I couldn't think well enough," he mused.

Bill has 63 years of perfect attendance at the Purcell Rotary Club and has enjoyed Rotary immensely. He was introduced to Rotary by Elmer Lee Ellison of the McClain County National Bank. "He doesn't have 63 years of perfect attendance at church because he had to work on Sundays at Williams Produce," Arlene said. "But there is one difference. You can't make up missing church, but you can make up a missed Rotary meeting."

Bill said he and Leon worked seven days a week at the produce store, putting in a 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. every Saturday when folks came to town to barter. "We'd buy 100 gallons of cream to sell every Saturday. We'd have to work on Sunday to take care of the chickens."

They had that business for 32 years before selling in 1974 to Steve Newville. In his early years, Bill cut his teeth working at the Harvey House at the Santa Fe Railroad station in Purcell, feeding up to 100 railroad workers every day. He started out washing dishes and later was promoted to potato peeler. "We had 30 minutes to feed everyone on the train that had stopped," Bill recalled. "We were always ready for them."

The Harvey House ran 24 hours a day, seven days a week with two passenger trains running north and two running south every day in addition to "lots of freight trains." "I got one meal and one dollar a day for working my shift from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.," Bill said. "I also got paid a dollar a week for sweeping at the hardware store." That was back when he was the ripe old age of eight.

Williams used his hard work background to serve nine years on the Purcell City Council, two as mayor. Along with Jim Kinblade, Randall Brewer, Laurence Mantooth and Richard Gray, Williams worked hard to provide Purcell with Purcell Municipal Hospital, which was opened in 1970. "During that time we also got new sewer and water lines west of town and got water lines to the Lexington water field where we got much better drinking water," he said.

Bill was also the head of the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Purcell.

Arlene's family moved to Washington from the Payne area in a snow storm in 1930. Her uncle was a missionary and her father led the singing.

Her family had a Model T but when the Depression hit, they parked the car and used horse and buggies. That car never worked

See BILL WILLIAMS on page 18

CPN member Jerry Mitchell accepts the challenge

Wanna run a Super Spartan? Are. You. Sure?

by JoAnne Dyer, CPN Member Writer/www.7Madronas.com

Imagine crawling on your belly through mud under barbed wire. You've already run four miles up a mountain, and you will likely have no water for the next four miles. Your calf is cramping. Dehydration has made you lightheaded. You struggle up a wall made slippery with soapy water. You know there are other obstacles like these ahead, but you don't know what shape they'll take or when they'll appear. You can't go back the way you came, because it's just as far back as it is forward. You set your mind and body and spirit to finish, no matter what.

Then imagine the satisfaction you feel when you cross the finish line, having completed one of the most grueling challenges the running world offers. Jerry Mitchell, Citizen Potawatomi Nation member, felt this satisfaction when he completed, at age 63, the Super Spartan race in Temecula, California this past January. Jerry talked recently about his weight loss and fitness training.

Jerry's fitness journey began when his competitive nature nudged him into joining a "Biggest Loser" contest at work. There was nothing unusual about how he had gained the weight. He simply ate too much and quit working out. "I just blew up," he said. Highly motivated, he lost 31 pounds in the competition. That spurred him to seek other fitness challenges.

He and his wife, Candi, skied for a while until his knees wouldn't let him. So Jerry and Candi signed up for a running class together. Longer weekend runs, more intense training, and eventually more competitions followed. Together they ran The Beast - nine miles up and down a mountain with a 2,100-foot elevation gain. Jerry accomplished that challenge in a little over two hours, while Candi beat Jerry's time by ten minutes. Candi is an outstanding competitive athlete in her own right, Jerry says.

Though Candi watched the Super Spartan from the sidelines, Jerry's son, Bradd, ran with him. Bradd unselfishly added minutes to his own time when he stopped to help his father, who had become stuck. Jerry's calf and quad were cramping, and Bradd assisted him by throwing him sticks to help him maneuver out of the mud.



CPN member Jerry Mitchell bursts through an obstacle on a Super Spartan run.

The looming unknown, combined with the sheer strenuousness of the run, make the Super Spartan doubly grueling. Runners don't know where or what the obstacles are. Those obstacles might involve crawling through the mud under barbed wire or climbing eight-foot inclined walls slippery with soapy water. If runners fail to navigate an obstacle successfully, they may pay a penalty, such as thirty squat thrusts.

Sometimes, these challenges are conquered without enough water. "The dehydration plays on you," said Jerry. "It's 70-75 degrees and you're going up on your hands and knees on the side of mountains, trying to get to the top of the mountain, and then you can get to the top of the mountain and you find out they're sending you right back down into some canyon, to come back up to the top of the mountain again."

Both Jerry and Bradd suffered from injuries after the intense Spartan competition, but such injuries don't stand in Jerry's way. People often ask him how he can run at all; osteoarthritis in his left hip and knee gives him a slight limp when he walks. He tells them, "I can run, but I can't walk." He's far too focused and determined to notice pain or discomfort when he's engrossed in a run.

As part of this determination, the first thing Jerry does each morning is weigh himself. He believes this kind of vigilance, along with regular movement, are the keys to keeping the weight off. He worked closely with a personal trainer in the last year, recording and reporting his weight along with exactly what he ate each day: "Your diet becomes the way it should be so you have the ability to run."

This dedication to health and fitness helps keep Jerry close and connected to his family, too. Married for 33 years to Candi, he has two grown daughters, Mona (in California) and April (in Washington State). Son Bradd lives in California, and an older son passed away in an industrial accident in 2007. Ten grandchildren and one great-grandson complete the family picture.

Jerry is descended from the Darling Potawatomi family. Jerry's father, Jack Darling Mitchell, was born in Shawnee. Jack owned Mitchell's Family Restaurant, located just off the freeway in southwest Oklahoma City. Jerry was born in San Jose, California. His family moved back to Oklahoma, living there until Jerry was three years old. The family then returned to California. He grew up in Glendale, joining the Marine Corps in 1968 and serving in Viet nam in 1968 and 1969. He left the Marine Corps in 1970.

He's now in a job he loves, as Director of Operations for Allied Beverages, one of the largest beer distributors in the U.S. He relishes the job's logistical challenges, such as transporting as many as 70,000 cases in only a day. "I couldn't work for a better company," he said.

Of his Potawatomi history studies and visits to tribal lands: "I've taken a lot of pride in it, "Jerry said. He and his twin brother are sole heirs to the family's Potawatomi tribal lands. He has enrolled his children and grandchildren as CPN members, and he competed in the inaugural Jim Thorpe Native American Games in June 2012 in Oklahoma City. "It's interesting to be a part of the Indian nation," he said.

If you're inspired to learn more about Super Spartan racing around the world, visit www.SpartanRace.com. And, for discussions on the challenges and accomplishments of Native Americans as they work toward fitness and wellness, visit www.WellboundStorytellers.com.

Legislative Columns

District #1 ~ Roy Slavin

Bozho Nikan,

Festival 2012 is now just a memory, and what a festival it was. So much happened to make it a very busy and exciting week. One of the major highlights for me was the grand opening of our aviary. I have been eagerly awaiting this moment since visiting an eagle aviary in Alaska last year.

Our aviary consists of two buildings. One is large and open, giving the eagles room to stretch their wings and fly. The other is smaller but still spacious. It has water running through it, giving it the appearance of a stream. The first building is for eagles that have been injured but are able to fly. After recovering from their injuries, these eagles will be released.

The other, smaller enclosure is for injured birds that probably will never be able to be released; they will become permanent residents. We now have eight eagles in various stages of healing. Jennifer Randell and Bree Dunham, the two ladies who run the aviary, are well-schooled in care of these great birds. We are very fortunate to have them. During the festival there were regular tours of the aviary. If you did not take one of these tours, I urge you to put that on your list of things to do.

There were many naming ceremonies on Saturday and Sunday of Festival, and I had the honor of naming several members from my District. Additionally, I attended several namings that Chairman John Barrett performed, including my own. If you have not yet received your Potawatomi name and would like to do so, please let me know. I will send the protocol for the ceremony and the information for making a request.

I make several trips to Shawnee each year and am always amazed at all the building and progress taking place. The Events Center is now complete and ready for use. The ball diamonds are finished and in use by several leagues. They will host a women's national softball tournament this year. Our new water tower is now in service and is a very prominent landmark.

Under construction are three soccer fields on the north side of Hardesty that will have multiple uses. Water is now being



pumped into the pond and it will soon be filled. The 12-acre pond will have a walking trail around the top and will be stocked with fish. I believe I heard there would be paddle boats, also. Besides providing recreation, the pond provides refrigeration and air conditioning for nearby facilities as a site for geo-thermal pipes.

Chairman Barrett never seems to run out of ideas, He told me many years ago, perhaps 20, that his goal was to make our tribal grounds a recreation destination. I believe his goal has been realized; there seems to be something here for everyone. I have said it before, and it bears repeating: Our Nation is extremely fortunate to have the team of John Barrett and Linda Capps as Chairman and Vice Chairman.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention that the District #1 handgames team consisting of Verna (Slavin) Brooks, Jessica Baker, Bobbie Baker, Laura Weinstein, Andrew Brooks, Sandy Bentch, and Janien Laurence are now 2012 Handgames Champs. There were 14 teams participating, making this the largest Calcutta ever.

It has been a great honor to serve as your District #1 representative for the past five years. My term expires in 2013, and if you, the voters, choose, I shall be honored to serve again for another four years. While on the subject of elections and voting, I am proud to say that in the last election, District #1 had one of the highest requests for absentee ballots.

I will end this article as always with a request for your contact information. Due to privacy issues, the Nation cannot give me that information. Thus, it has to come from you. If you do not receive e-mail or regular mail from me, it's because I do not have your contact information. I can be reached via e-mail atRslavin@potawatomi.org, rjslavin@gmail.com, or rjslavin@sbcglobal.net. My telephone number is 816-741-5767. And, my physical address is Roy Slavin, 6730 Tower Drive, Kansas City, MO 64151.

Migwetch,

Roy/*Netagtege*



The hand game team members are, from left, Verna Brooks, Andrew Brooks, Janien Lawrence, Laura Weinstein, Sandy Bentch, Bobbie Baker and Jessica Baker.

District #2 ~ Eva Marie Carney

Bozho/Hello,

In mid-July 2012, our group of 42 Citizen Potawatomis, family members, and friends visited the National Museum of the American Indian exhibit Best in the World: Native Athletes in the Olympics. The exhibit featured information and items relating to our Potawatomi/Sac and Fox relative, Jim Thorpe, who many continue to regard as the world's best-ever athlete. (He is in our family line, and our son Marshall's Potawatomi name is *Wasmikas*, which translates to Bright Path, the translation of Jim Thorpe's Sac and Fox name.)

Information and memorabilia lent by Olympian Billy Mills (Oglala Lakota) also was featured.

We saw the recasts of the gold medals awarded to Jim Thorpe for his victories in the decathlon and pentathlon in the 1912 Summer Olympic Games held in Stockholm, Sweden. We also saw Mr. Mills' Olympic gold medal. He earned it as the second Native American in history (after Jim Thorpe) to win an Olympic gold medal when he finished first in the 10,000 meter (6.2 mile) run at the 1964 Summer Olympic Games. Billy Mills is now the national spokesperson for Running Strong for Native American Youth. It is a charity worth checking out (see www.indian-youth.org), and Mr. Mills is an inspiring speaker.

Billy Mills delivered an inspiring talk and showed clips of his come-from-out-of-nowhere 10K victory. Afterward, he was very generous with his time and spent some special moments with CPN member



Josephine (Jody) Lewis and several of her family members. Jody attended Haskell Indian School with Billy Mills, and met her husband Ted Lewis there.

Billy Mills shared with the Lewis grandchildren that it was Ted Lewis who pushed Billy to run faster, as Ted regularly beat Billy in high school running events. But, Ted Lewis then went on to play a range of other sports while Billy focused on his running. Jody Lewis brought some photos from high school days that Billy loved seeing and signed for her. Adding to the day's enjoyment, we also shared a delicious lunch together at the Museum restaurant, Mitsitam. This is a not-to-be-missed "DC best eats" location if you do get out this way.

Potawatomis came from Central and Northern Virginia (Marcia, Norman, and

Marc Pearce; Charlie and Tom Brunt and Wendy Eidh, along with Wendy's sister Vickie Tyquiengco, Charlie's brother, and other Brunt relations; Bob and Karen Richey; Tiffany Carter and her sweet husband; and Adele Crump and her sons Mark and Alex); the Eastern Shore of Maryland (Davis Hobdy and Ken Armstrong); Washington, D.C. (Walter and Judy Hillabrant); and Syracuse, New York (Jody Lewis, Juanita Buckshot, Kathy Hill, and many other Lewises!) for the event.

Migwetch for your company; you all made it a great day!

I've included a few photos at the end of the column, drawn from the album posted to my Facebook page (please "friend me" if you are comfortable doing so) and up on my website (under the Photos tab). I hope you enjoy them.

It would be terrific if you can join us for another District #2 event, and you can read about the Thorpe/Mills exhibit here (the link is http://nmai.si.edu/explore/exhibitions/item/504).It runs through September 3, 2012. There is more about Jim Thorpe at www.smithsonianmag.com/history-archaeology/Why-Are-Jim-Thorpes-Olympic-Records-Still-Not-Recognized.html.

When we met up at the Museum, Marcia Pearce gave me a clipping she'd saved for me from *The Catholic Virginian*. It notes that Kateri Tekakwitha will be canonized by the Catholic Church as a saint - the first Native American saint - on October 21, 2012. She had taken note that I wrote about Blessed Kateri in a Winter column that was a tribute to the strong faith and goodness of Native women. I was excited simply that someone had read the column and remembered it. After I read the clipping, it seemed to me that it was no coincidence that both Blessed Kateri and Billy Mills, whom we had come to hear speak, had a special ministry of outreach to young people. *Migwetch* for the update, Marcia!

On the CPN government front, the Legislature has voted to extend Health Aids benefits to more Potawatomis. Now, enrolled Potawatomis born on or after January 1, 1972 are eligible. The date was moved back to cover an additional five-year period. The guidelines and forms have been reworked and are available through a link to my website, under the Services tab. Please begin using the new forms now, and please let your relatives who are within this additional five-year band know about their new benefit.

Since it was such a special time, I am certain that many of my fellow legislators will be devoting their columns to highlights of this year's Family Reunion Festival. I'll mention four of the events that were highlights for me: (1) How unbeatable our District #2 Hand Games Team (comprised of Lyle Simmons, Bob and Karen Richey, Dana Rees, Harvey Richey, Dixie Morgan Quinn, and Johnathon Nelson) looked in their baseball caps with the CPN District #2 logo fashioned by FireLake Designs, during the Friday evening competition, and the fun we had that night; (2) watching nephew Matt compete in the archery contests Saturday morning with the coaching/support of my brother Dave Carney, followed by an impressive bowling outing by nephew Luke in the Nation's terrific (and comfortably air-conditioned!) bowling center on Saturday afternoon; (3) having the honor of naming Dana Richey Rees (*Kiskokwe*/Sky Woman) and Harvey Richey (*Wamegose*/Little Thunderbird) on our reservation lands Sunday morning; and (4) since the full moon coincided with the final night of the Festival, participating in women's ceremonies led by Kelli Mosteller, with sister-in-law Nicole Sechrist Carney and niece Sophia, as well as Beverly Hughes, Linda Capps, Bobbi Bowden, Jennifer Randell, Bree Dunham, Theresa Adame, Shelley and Sharon Hoogstraten, quite a few other wonderful Potawatomi women, and our Firekeeper Sam Navarre, on Sunday evening. *Migwetch* to Kelli for what she taught me that night. There are many, many photos of the long weekend's events posted to my Facebook page and up on my website (under the Photos tab), if you'd like an armchair tour.

One final note: please, send me your contact details. Building community is an e-mail by e-mail endeavor; please make sure you are included!

Migwetch/thank you for the honor of representing you,

Eva Marie Carney/*Ojindiskwe*
Legislator, District #2
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In upper left photo, CPN District #2 Rep. Eva Marie Carney poses with grandchildren of Jody and Ted Lewis.

In the photo above, the group of 42 Potawatomis and their family members and friends pause to pose in the National Museum of the American Indian lobby at the start of the District #2 event.

In the photo at left, we see the NMAI display board cataloguing Jim Thorpe's accomplishments.

District #4 ~ Theresa Adame



Bozho,

In the past, I just knew that, when I heard elders say "Time flies so fast", it had to be because they were old. Now, I know better. When I get my e-mail to remind me of my article deadline it seems like I just finished the last month's edition.

While I was in Shawnee for the Family Reunion Festival, I made the offer to name citizens. I was excited to have a young woman, 17 years old, step forward. We met before the trip so she could make the request and give the gift of tobacco.

I also like to meet with and talk to people before picking their names. We had a private ceremony with the Ketterman family and friends early on Saturday morning during the Festival. This family has been active in the tribe, and I wanted to thank them for letting me be a part in helping pass on traditions to the next generation of their family.

I also was on hand when the Pearl family had their naming ceremony in St Marys, Kansas earlier this spring. We gathered on a farm that has been passed down through several generations of the family. They had prepared a wonderful prayer circle, erected a tent, and prepared a wonderful feast. In contrast to the single person being named it was a large group. I truly enjoyed sitting under the trees, listening to the elders talk about the farm, the family, and growing up in St Marys.

I have written before about how my family has a family reunion every Labor Day and, as a part of that, has a naming ceremony. Please contact me if you would like to receive your Potawatomi name during that weekend.

It only takes one person in the family to

start your own tradition.
Theresa Adame
CPN Kansas Legislator
Tadame@potawatomi.org



A Moment from the Pearl Naming: Jerry Pearl, Sister Virginia Pearl, Maureen Harris, Bob Pearl, and Marj Guerich pause during the recent Naming Ceremony at the Pearl farm.

District #5 ~ Gene Lambert

Bozho,

June and July always mark the time for Fireworks, barbeques, family, friends, and "The Family Reunion Festival." This year, 2012, was no exception! Some say I get a little over-dramatic and excited when I talk about this time of the year. However, it is my birthday, along with those of four other family members. We all celebrate birthdays in July.

When I was a small child, I actually believed everyone celebrated my birthday - the Fourth of July. But, it didn't take long to learn that it was Independence Day – the birthday of the good ole U.S. of A.

We have our veterans to thank for that. Speaking of which, did you know that there are more Native Americans serving in the military per capita than any other nationality. I am always so proud to say that.

When you visit our homeland in Shawnee, Oklahoma and the CPN Cultural Center, you can see the strong collection of men and women –members of the citizen Potawatomi Nation- who have served over the years. If you are a CPN member and are serving now or have in the past, you want to be sure to be a part of the wall of military pictures we honor.

There is so much to do and see during The Family Reunion Festival; if you haven't gone by now, you need to. You can learn about your culture, the history, get to know other family members and renew the connections you have today. You can learn about the crafts and survival ways of our forefathers. Enjoy the experience for yourself.

This is also the time when we have our yearly elections and general council and legislative meetings.

The families honored this year were Yott, Toupin, Pettifer, Ogee, Bertrand, Bourbonnais, Anderson, and Beaubien. We are family, and that is what it is all about.

The new beginnings are always the excitement of the year. This year I saw the new hotel in a skeletal structure in its magnificence as it towered over our Grand Casino. Pictures are available on line as it progresses. Thank you to Michael Dodson.



The most impressive of all was the Eagle Aviary. I was breathless as I stood watching these majestic, historic Eagles perched so close you could almost touch them

The opportunity to have a District #5 Meeting in Pueblo, Colorado this year was another fabulous experience for me. We met at the Art Museum, and those who chose to do so had the opportunity to enjoy three stories of eclectic art after the luncheon and meeting.

I want to say thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Burns and their family members, who so graciously helped with the success of my first District #5 Colorado meeting.

The Wisest Potawatomi at the meeting was Sam H McCollum. When asked what advice he had for the rest of us, he said, "Never eat anything you don't like." That's very wise, and I agree.

The youngest CPN member there was Analeia Pearl Manot, at two-and-a-half years old, Shee was born on October 7, 2009. She is an absolutely adorable little girl.

The CPN member who traveled the longest distance to attend was Antoinette Marlow. There was some discussion and map quest was brought into play to determine the distances traveled. But, we did arrive there after all.

Congratulations to you all and thank you for the pleasure of spending time with all of you.

Time is all we have. You can spend your time any way you choose. No one knows how much time that is. So … thank you so much for sharing the time we have spent together.

Migwetch,
Gene Lambert
Legislator, District #5

District #6 ~ Rande Payne

Bozho Nikan,

Hard to believe but yes it's true; summer is half-gone, and another Family Reunion Festival is in the record books. For me it was the best Festival ever for a number of reasons. In the interest of space I will hit the high points and try not to overdo the details.

I was very fortunate to be able to attend the memorial service for Rep. Mark Johnson's late father Richard V. Johnson. Chairman John 'Rocky' Barrett facilitated the service. The service included video clips of Mr. Johnson and his wife Jane. The CPN Honor Guard was present to honor Mr. Johnson's military service.

Family members also spoke of how important Mr. Johnson was to them and described how he had touched their lives and how much he would be missed. It was an honor meeting members of the Johnson family who had traveled from various parts of the country, including District #6. The conclusion of the service was a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Columbaria on the west side of the Mission Church.

If you haven't heard yet, we now have our own Eagle Aviary. This is a project long in the making but very worthwhile. After a guided tour of the facility, members of the legislature participated in the dedication and opening ceremony. I had never been that close to a bald eagle, much less several all at once. Now I better understand why the eagle is such a national treasure and worthy of every effort to preserve them. These beautiful birds are in the very capable hands of Jennifer Randell and Bree Dunham. These ladies have worked long and hard to see this dream through to reality.

Festival is always a time for family and friends. My immediate family members were unable to come this year but I was able to spend a little time with some of my Oklahoma family. It is always a special time, going by the farm where my mother was raised and visiting with family members who knew my great-granddad John Tescier. It was a special treat seeing Chris and Lillian Lawrenz from Southern California. I also met some cousins I didn't know I had from the Bay Area and Las Vegas. It seems that every year I find new cousins!



Another treat for me was being presented with a gift of tobacco from tribal member Sharon K. Alto Sparks from District #6. I am honored to be naming Sharon in the very near future. Sharon is a cousin to Rep. Mark Johnson. I'm looking forward to this special event.

As always, it's truly a blessing to meet our PLP interns. As a nation, we are very fortunate to have so many talented and aspiring young men and women. PLP is a great opportunity in a multitude of ways for our leaders of tomorrow to learn and grow.

These were just some of the highlights of a very memorable Family Festival. Each year I think that it couldn't get any better but somehow it does. I am already looking forward to next year!

In closing, I would like to announce the arrival of Anasophia Vespa Crumbo. Scott & Andrea Crumbo are the proud parents of this beautiful baby girl. Anasophia was born on May 23, 2012 in Irvine, California. Congratulations Scott and Andrea!

Lastly, I am toying with the idea of periodic cultural events throughout the District. Having a suitable location is half the battle.

Renting locations is expensive and unpredictable. I am looking for members in the Los Angeles County, San Diego County, and Las Vegas areas who might have access to a social hall such as Elks or Grange or a church fellowship hall. We would need tables and chairs for about 50 or so people.

If we could establish locations in these three areas combined with the District office, we would make events affordable, accessible for the vast majority of members in the district, and a lot easier to do. Please contact me at my e-mail address or District office phone if you have a location in mind.

Well that's all for this edition. I hope all is well with you and yours. It is my great pleasure serving as your Representative.

"Rejoice with those who rejoice…" - Romans 12:15

Bama pi,
Rande K. Payne/*Mnedo Gabo*
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Anasophia Vespa Crumbo

District #7 ~ Mark Johnson

Bozho,

Once again, our Nation enjoyed a successful Family Reunion Festival. For those in attendance, many memories were made and family connections strengthened. I have had the opportunity over the years to meet many relatives whom I would have never had the opportunity to meet, if it had not been for the Festival.

I have also had the opportunity to meet many members who live in District #7, many who have traveled to Shawnee for the first time. Many are just now finding time in their busy lives to learn about the rich heritage that we all share, I had the wonderful opportunity to spend a part of a day with my cousin showing her everything I could think of, from our great-grandparents' grave-site to the allotment where her mother lived until the age of one, when the family moved to California, and all of the enterprises that the Nation runs. Start making your plans now to attend next year and join us in Shawnee the last weekend in June.

On the Thursday before the start of the



Festival, several family members and I were honored to attend the ground-breaking ceremony for the first section of the Nation's new columbarium, which will be placed next to the old Church on the hill south of the Cultural Heritage Center. This will be a lovely location where the cremated remains of our loved ones can be entombed on the land that so many came from. When completed, the columbarium will be in the shape of a prayer wheel and will be an honored place for our ancestors to rest.

We were also honored that the first section to be completed will honor our father and will be known as the Richard V. Johnson Memorial Wall in honor of our Nation's Veterans.

One of the changes that the legislature has been able to make is in the eligibility of members for the Health Aids program. The eligibility age was changed to those who were born by December 31, 1976 from the previous date of 1971. This makes many more members eligible for the $750 annual Health Aids assistance. New Guidelines and Application are available on my website.

As members of the legislature, we are committed to making benefits available to the membership when it makes sense and is fiscally practical and responsible to do so.

Once again, I would like to say what an honor it is to serve you as your District #7 representative. As always, give me a call and I will be happy to work with you on any questions you might have or provide you with additional information you might need to access tribal benefits that you are entitled to.

Migwetch,
Mark Johnson/Wisk Mtek
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District #8 ~ Dave Carney

Bozho, Jayek (Hello, Everyone),

Alaska is a place of unique beauty and unique people. I have the honor of representing our members in nine northwestern states, and I am grateful that Alaska is in District #8.

The "District #8 Meeting and Cookout" that was held on June 23rd in Wasilla, Alaska could not have been held in a more beautiful natural setting. It was on the property of Rozann Kimpton and her family: Rugged Alaska acreage with a swift-running creek providing entertainment for the kids and the sounds of nature as background to our events.

Someone attempted to count the attendees and gave up at 67 because the kids running across a log foot-bridge to the other side of the creek were too hard to factor in. Suffice it to say it was a good turn-out of members and their spouses and a handful of guests. The Nation provided hamburgers, hot dogs, and other barbecue basics. The attending members brought an incredible variety of appetizers, salads, and desserts.

Mother Nature provided mixed blessings to me for the weekend of events. It was perfect weather for the cookout; about 75 degrees and clear. However, being from the "Lower 48," I failed to understand that it did not get dark until well after midnight. This makes such things as outdoor movies and power point presentations challenging, if not impossible.

Family members attempted to darken a large shelter with tarps; the scene looked almost like an Alaskan version of a barn-raising. But, it was no avail. I had to switch gears and do a town hall meeting-type format. This went well as members shared about past CPN events and the benefits they have been able to utilize.



The winner as the "Wisest Potawatomi" was Marilyn Summerhays. The youngest enrolled member was two-year old Dax O'Brien.

The gathering ended with some traditional story-telling for the children (and others) around a fire at the creek. The children were very receptive to the stories about Anishnabe (original man) and his quest for knowledge, family, and fire as told by Tony Paige of Anchorage. I told the story of how Turtle Island (North America) came to be.

On Sunday, we returned to Rozann's creek for our early morning Naming Ceremony. One of the Kimpton family's friends who attended the cookout is a lovely Choctaw woman named Kizzi. I invited her to join us on Sunday, and while Kizzi was

driving to the ceremony she saw an animal in the road. It turned out to be a river otter that had been hit by a car.

She was moving the animal and had prayed and put down tobacco as is her way, but the otter showed signs of life, so she brought it to our naming where it rested, away from our festivities. The Alaskans felt that this otter was a special guest and that he would either recover to be released in the Kimptons' creek, or if he did not survive, would be used for regalia.

After checking with Sam Navarre in our language department, I learned that the otter is considered one of the oldest and wisest animals in our stories. It is why older men usually wear the otter fur hat when dancing. From what I remember, the otter is considered to be a powerful animal in most Native cultures, not just ours.

Seven members received their names on Sunday morning: Don Summerhays, four members of the Cortez family, and two members of the Shorthill family. The slow, steady drizzle throughout the ceremony made me feel like I was at home in Washington State.

Afterward, we all had a "feast" of breakfast food, and we exchanged gifts. I was presented with a beautiful abalone shell and was smudge by Lindsay Richey, who had received the name Mzhekwet Negosek, (Clear Starry Night) earlier. I presented our hostess with a hand drum and beater that I had made. It was an honor to be a part of building the District #8 Alaska community, and I'm very thankful to Rozann and all who made these events possible.

The next District #8 event is tentatively planned for early August in the Idaho panhandle. If you are not receiving e-mails from me and would like to, please e-mail me at dcarney@potawatomi.org.

Migwetch,
Dave Carney/*Kagashi* (Raven)
District #8 Representative
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District #9 ~ Paul Wesselhöft

Bozho, Nikan,

INDIAN ENOUGH:
A Dialogue on Blood Quantum

In my role as a member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, I wrote and passed a bill, now law, eliminating Blood Quantum in Oklahoma as a qualification for the position of the Governor's Native American Liaison. I posted this information on Facebook and received this response from a prominent Native American lady: "Well, Paul, I didn't really agree with taking the Blood Quantum requirement out. There is a vast difference between how dark-skinned natives are and were treated as opposed to those who can pass for Caucasian. I think it would have done the Governor's office and our tribes better to have a dark-skinned native appointed, and the only dark skinned natives, more than likely, have a Blood Quantum of higher than one-quarter (1/4)." ***(Editor's note: The legislation that established the position had set a requirement of at least one-quarter American Indian blood quantum.)***

I answered: "I believe most, if not all, tribal nations disagree with you. Blood Quantum was, and is, a cynical federal devise and program to disenfranchise and do away with Indians. Blood Quantum is



racism, pure and simple. If the states and the federal government continue to allow Blood Quantum, in the future, by simple math, there will be no more Indians because of intermarriage. Ask a number of tribal chiefs, governors, and chairmen."

She answered back: "Oh, I totally agree with you on the reasoning and the future of our Indian nations, as do most of us. By that logic we are breeding ourselves out of existence. I didn't say I believe Blood Quantum is the end-all/be-all of how to designate one of us as a citizen of a tribal nation. I just don't see how someone who has not lived the life of a person who has been treated differently because of dark skin can empathize to the degree needed to represent all Indian tribes in Oklahoma."

This real conversation is a poignant reminder of our continual struggle to define for ourselves who we are as Native Americans; as well as allowing others to define us whether we are Indian enough.

Migwetch,
Paul Wesselhöft/*Naganit* (Leader)

District #10 ~ David Barrett

Bozho,



We have completed 2012 Family Reunion Festival for our nation. I have to say that this Festival was a very busy one for me. To start with on Thursday before the Festival officially kicked off, I was able to have the honor with two other fellow veterans to present the American flag to legislator Mark Johnson's mother in a memorial service for his father Richard Johnson, a WWII veteran.

The eagle aviary project has been a long time in the making. I had the opportunity to attend the Eagle Aviary dedication on the morning of Friday, June 29.

During supper on Friday evening, the veterans had a Flag Retirement Ceremony to properly lay to rest old flags after they were inspected at the west side of the Round House. Then at 6:30 p.m., I was one of the judges for the traditional hand games at the Reunion Round House.

On Saturday morning, I was voter number 10 to cast my vote after I did not vote by absentee ballot because I always enjoy going to the voting place in person. I attended our veteran's meeting at 8 a.m. Saturday morning after I cast my ballot. General Council was held at 3 p.m. at the Cultural Heritage Center. Then, Grand Entry started at 8 p.m. with the colors being presented and the entering of all our elected officials and the veterans, followed by our honored families and all the rest of the Potawatomi members. What a sight it was, seeing the different regalia that entered our dance arena at the pow wow grounds.

On Sunday morning, I attended the church service at the church just north of the health clinic. Afterward, there was a combined memorial service honoring the lives of CPN members Robert Slavin, Joe Slavin, and Teresa (Slavin) Reed (at 109 years old, our oldest tribal member at the time of her passing in May). Several family members spoke, and the CPN Veterans Organization presented American flags to the families of the two WWII veterans.

On Monday the legislature met at 9 a.m., conducting the necessary business. At late afternoon, I accompanied a group led by Chairman John Barrett to the top of our under-construction Grand Hotel. There were many activities that were going on each day, such as beadwork, feather-painting, swimming, flute-playing, domino, checkers and chess tournaments, honored family interviews, softball, archery, and many more. Did I fail to mention eating hot dogs, bratwursts, smoked bologna, and breakfast, lunch, and dinner?

Visiting with as many as I could, I have always treated the opportunity as a privilege. I hope to be able to participate in different activities because my grandchildren are becoming excited about all the things that they can do. They came in during the Grand Entry, which really thrilled me.

I want to share *Migwetch* (Thanks) to the workers, staff, and employees for a successful, greatly appreciated Festival.

Despite the Oklahoma summer heat, everyone with whom I spoke at Festival reported having a very good time. We hope that, by the time for Festival 2013, there will be new facilities available to allow us to move more activities indoors, away from the heat. I'm looking forward to seeing Citizen Potawatomis who usually attend and making acquaintance with many, many others who have not attended.

Migwetch,
David Barrett/*Mnedobe*
Legislator, District #10
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District #11 ~ Lisa Kraft



Family Reunion Festival 2012 was very memorable. Thank you to everyone who made it possible.

I want to report the survey results requested through my last column. Two Oklahoma tribal members filled out the survey and returned it. A member from Washington also responded that he was very offended by the questions. In all, I had three responses.

I plan to mail a revised survey out to Oklahoma members along with a better description of the tribal land base. I will attach a postage-paid return envelope so that the completed survey can be returned easily to me. Unfortunately, I will not be able to create a new survey and get it mailed out before we meet on the 2013 budget. For those two members who expressed their needs, I will be sure to discuss them in the Appropriations Committee.

I am humbled to know that I am not communicating very well in my columns. I also made the wrong assumption that my column is being read by members outside of Oklahoma. If taken out of context of my column, I can understand how the survey was confusing and its return even more so. I apologize. I know there are unmet needs among our membership.

For me, I wish I had more time to devote to member outreach in addition to a monthly column. My fellow Oklahoma legislators and I have talked about holding statewide meet-and-greet events. But those are hard to coordinate to get the most member participation.

I'd like to think along the lines of inviting Oklahoma members to our Grand Casino for a free fall concert or, when it cools down, an Oklahoma tribal member family mini-Olympics at the sports complex and bowling center. I think another way for local tribal members to see our tribal talent would be a member-only encore performance of the employee Star Search Contest. If we can get together again in our leisure time, like our Heritage Festival, we might be able to discuss our needs in a better way.

As always, I am thinking Potawatomi.

Lisa Kraft
Tribal Representative
District #11 - Oklahoma statewide

District #12 ~ Paul Schmidlkofer



Bozho Nikan,

With Festival behind us, it's back to the everyday chores of running the Nation. As you probably know, this task falls to the Executive branch of government. I stopped by last week and had a nice visit. Everything is status quo. It's amazing how many different areas we are invested in. It is this diversification that has helped us weather the economic conditions. I would just like to thank Chairman John Barrett and Vice Chairman Linda Capps for the long hours they put in making it all work. I offer thanks, also, to Secretary-Treasurer D. Wayne Trousdale for his sound financial leadership.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Festival and made it home safe. It was quite a sight at Grand Entry. It seems each year we have more and more tribal members participating. It was also fun catching up with all my family and the members who came. I have been able to visit with several members who come almost every year. Several of them have retired in the last five or 10 years. I have noticed some have enjoyed retirement and others have become busier than when they worked full time. I am not sure but I hope that i fall into the category of "the less-busy" when I retire. We will see.

Weren't the grounds in really good shape, also? Plus, for as warm as it was, it was still fairly pleasant. With the breeze and the cover over the dance arena and eating areas, it was especially comfortable compared to some of the record-high temperatures last year. We hope that, by next year, we will have the new Event Center finished and will be able to have General Council in it.

I hope all of you noticed the new water tower from our rural water district proudly proclaiming FireLake. It is a sign of where we are going.

As always it is both a pleasure and an honor to serve you and our great nation.

Bama pi and migwetch,
Paul Schmidlkofer



Bozho,

As the new Vice Commander of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Veterans Organization, it is now my duty to update tribal members and veterans on the organization's activities for the month. We were deeply honored to be a part of the memorial service for the most highly decorated Potawatomi veteran of World War II and a prestigious member of the CPN Veterans Organization, Richard Vincent Johnson, December 15, 1922 to April 1, 2012.

The memorial was officiated by Chairman John A. Barrett on Thursday, June 28, 2012. The presentation of the colors and a flag to his surviving widow, Jane Johnson, was performed by three members of our Honor Guard - Commander Joe David Melon, Treasurer David Barrett, and Team Leader Herb Holton. CPN Veterans member Clyde Yates blew a sacred eagle whistle to announce the arrival of Richard Johnson's spirit into Heaven.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Veterans Organization's members presented the colors and eagle staff followed by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's flag, the CPN Veterans Organization's flag, and the flags of each of the five branches of the armed forces at the Grand Entry of the 2012 tribal festival on Saturday evening.



On Friday, June 29, 2012, the CPN Veterans Organization performed a flag retirement ceremony that was overseen by Clyde Yates. This is the ceremonial burning of United States flags that are too worn and tattered to be flown.

The CPN Veterans Organization had a booth set up in the South Reunion Hall, where the registration of arriving tribal members took place. We were there to welcome veterans to the festival and inform them of the veterans organization and offer membership. We signed up 23 new members during the festival. The CPN Veterans Organization is growing larger every year.

Migwetch! For more information on the organization and how to become a member, check out our website at www.cpnveterans.com.

Daryl Talbot
Vice Commander

Vice Chairman Linda Capps



Bozho,

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority has made tremendous progress in the past 14 years. There are several reasons for these advances, but one of the main ones readily stands out. Robert (Bob) Carlile came to the Nation as Director of Housing in 1998. He brought years of housing experience with him, along with a working relationship with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which has been valuable to the Nation.

Prior to 1995, the CPN shared housing services with other local tribes. The beginning of the Nation's own Housing Authority laid the groundwork for significant services to our Potawatomi tribal members.

Today, the CPN Housing Authority has 11 full-time employees and one part-time employee. Five of the employees have more than 15 years of housing experience; Bob Carlile has more than 25 years of experience. Each of the other employees has at least five years of experience in the housing field.

The Housing Authority currently manages 82 loans within various programs including: Acquisition, FEMA Trailers, Emergency Repair, New Construction, and Employee Assisted Housing. Homebuyer Education classes are offered by the CPN Housing Authority to assist individuals with the home-buying process. In addition, the one-time $2,125 maximum closing expense assistance is initiated through the Housing Authority for CPN tribal members.

The Authority manages a total of 142 rental units for the elderly, disabled, and families. Twenty of these units are the new "Green" units complimented with some electric bills of as little as $50 per month. Most of the units for the elderly and disabled are located on Father Joe Murphy Street near the CPN headquarters building; however, 20 elderly units are located in Rossville, Kansas. Other family units are located on Thirteenth Street and on Nichols Street in Tecumseh and a few scattered locations within the area.

Another program managed by the CPN Housing Authority is Student Housing Assistance for full-time college students. Approximately 1,000 students were assisted with funding during the past school year. In addition, the Housing Authority has assisted 20 CPN families with storm shelters. The storm shelter initiative falls under the Rural Development guidelines, which places restrictions on the service area.

A second phase of the storm shelter program is in the planning stage. During the past year, the Housing Authority has also provided assistance through the Elderly/Disabled Repair program to 13 CPN tribal members' privately owned homes. The assistance consists of major and/or moderate repair services.

Last, and certainly not least, of the many attributes of the Housing Authority is the new safe room located centrally to Father Murphy elderly and disabled residents. The handsome structure is 1,800 square feet (30 feet by 60 feet). The 12-inch floor with 6-inch walls and 6-inch top constructed with 4,000 psi tested concrete has ¾-inch structural steel rods interlaced and encapsulated in a heavy-duty vinyl shell.

The safe room can withstand winds of up to 300 miles per hour; it can accommodate as many as 350 people. The safe room was built with grant money from HUD and FEMA.

Congratulations to Bob Carlile for a "job well done" for the management, planning, and implementation of CPN Housing Authority objectives for the past 14 years.

As I have mentioned numerous times, CPN is blessed to have so many competent and dedicated employees. This is another reason (of many) that I cherish the opportunity to serve as your Vice Chairman.

Migwetch,

Linda Capps







In the top photo, we introduce the employees who have made Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority programs and efforts such a success. From left to right, they are Butch Taylor, Debra Wakole, Raychel Goodall, Sherry Byers, Bob Carlile, Angelique Williams, Joe Morlan, Yolanda Hunter, Scott George, and Scott McDonnell. Not pictured are Lyman Boursaw, who oversees the Rossville, Kansas operations and Terry Peltier.

At left, CPN Safety Director Tim Zientek, who worked to line up Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assistance for building the safe room, and Housing authority Director Robert Carlile pose at the door of the safe room. And, at right above, the interior of the safe room, located inside the Father Joe Murphy housing addition, is shown.

The new home for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority is shown below. It is three miles east of Gordon Cooper Drive on Hardesty Road.



Citizen Potawatomi Nation Progress: From the Air





















On the afternoon of Thursday, June 28, 2012, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural heritage Center employee Cindy Merriman took a helicopter ride across the Nation's jurisdiction. When she returned, Ms. Merriman had a cache of aerial photographs the Nation will be able to use in a variety of situations.

Along the left, there are views of the just-finished CPN Eagle Aviary, the West Clinic (which was completed in August 2011), and the water tower.

At top in the center column of photographs is a view of the Ballfields at FireLake, in the center of the photo, with the new FireLake in the upper left corner. The lake will feature a walking trail around its perimeter with fishing and paddleboats for recreation. The photo below shows a closer view of the Ballfields, which have seen very heavy use since their March 2012 opening.

Two aerial views of the new Grand Hotel & Resort are below it. Completion of the 14-story, 262-suite hotel is slated for some time in 2013.

Atop the right photo column are two views of the FireLake Events Center, which will seat 5,000 for a wide range of events - from concerts to trade shows and well beyond. It, too, is slated for a 2013 completion.

Finally, although it is by no means a recent construction project, the Sacred Heart Church near Konawa in south Pottawatomie County is shown, with its bright red roof gleaming in the summer sun.

View Citizen Potawatomi Nation Legislative meetings on www. Potawatomi. org

Potawatomi Language Program

The Potawatomi Language Department had the opportunity to travel to the Hannahville Potawatomi community in June and July for an immersion camp with first-language speakers Jim Thunder and Mary Jane Thunder. For those of you who do not know, our language is at a very critical point today with fewer than 10 first-language speakers of Potawatomi. These are speakers who grew up learning and acquiring the language at a very young age in their homes.

The Language Department is taking steps to stem this loss and ensure not only a continuity of our language for future generations but also an archive of language materials, both audio and video, for our future generations. Language gatherings of this nature give us an opportunity to network with the other groups of Potawatomis and exchange ideas, techniques, and best practices. Currently, we have a 3,000-word dictionary available for download at www.potawatomi.org. We are working on an updated version. At this writing, it contains 4,500 words. We hope to make it available by the end of 2012.

That being said, I am very excited to be able to talk about some of the numerous innovations and opportunities which are available to our members, both at home and in the regions. We have a number of classes and cultural teachings available on the Cultural Heritage Center website at www.PotawatomiHeritage.com. Also, we are now offering three separate times for online classes. We hope this meets the needs of our far-flung membership.

We have a beginners' class on Tuesdays from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. central time. To join this class, go to www.instantpresenter.com/Potawatomi3 a few minutes before class start time. There is no cost for the class, and the only prerequisite is a desire to learn one's Potawatomi language, thereby finding a deeper connection to one's roots.

The second class is an intermediate class which is being offered from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. central time on Thursdays. This class is open to all. You do not have to have attended any classes in the past, however the material here might move a little faster and be a little more advanced.

Finally, we are extremely happy to mention a 7:00 p.m. Tuesdays beginners' class. After a number of folks indicated an interest in an evening class, we are happy to make this available to you. We hope that a 7:00 p.m. start time will make it possible for folks to join us not only on the west coast but the east coast as well.

For those of you living within driving distance of CPN headquarters and who prefer the face-to-face interactions, we have a beginners' class on Mondays from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Cultural Heritage Center. We also have an intermediate class from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Thursdays at the Cultural Heritage Center.

If these times do not work, please let us know so that, as we plan future classes, we can take into account various time frames which work best for our members.

Now to share a few sentences from the immersion camps:

Gashkegadeyak gbedi ne gwi biskan? Ksenyamget zagech. (Are you going to wear shorts? It's cold outside.)

Gashkegadeyak gbedi - shorts (literally cut off pants); *ne* - indicates a question; *Gwi* - you will (future); *biskan* - verb, to wear something.

Dopwenek ngi-ton I nbiskowagen ngi-nendem. (I thought I put my shirt on the table.) *Dopwen* - table; *ek* - on; ngi - I did; *ton* - put; *I* - that; *nbiskowagen* - my shirt; *ngi* - I did; *nendem* - verb, to think.

Ni pi je I zaskokwan? (Where is the frying pan?) *Ni pi je* - where; *I* - that/the; *zaskokwan* - frying pan (literally, this describes the shape of the frying pan).

Neyew gon ngi-ye. (I was there for four days.) *Neyew* - four; *gon* - is used to indicate days but is also our word for snow on the ground; *ngi* - I was; *ye* - there, in a location.

Npachnekeshi – (mole) *npach* - the messed up, *neke* - arm, *shi*- creature; This describes the funny looking hands of a mole.

Demakmeshi- (monkey, used up north) *sago* - (monkey, used in the south). *Demakeme* - describes the action of picking lice, *shi* - indicates the being/creature.

Wemtegoshi – (French man) *We* - the one, *mtego* - indicating the tree or wood, *shi*- person/being; The one who carries the cross. This is the name our people gave the French early on because early contact was with Jesuit priests.

Jijibsemget – (it quivers or shakes).

We hope to see you out and about, learning and using our language. Remember the language is our birthright. The language along with our ceremonies, stories, history, and blood make us who we are as Potawatomi people. Don't be afraid to not only use the language but come on out or join one of our online classes.

Migwetch,
Justin Neely
Potawatomi Language Director

Guthrie golfer scores FireLake Classic win



Clint Colbert, winner of the 2012 FireLake Classic, contested at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's golf course on July 28 and 29, 2012, finishes his second-day round on the 18th green on Sunday.

The Guthrie, Oklahoma golfer fought through 108-degree temperatures on both days of the tournament. Colbert described the conditions as "ridiculously hot" and said he also had to battle effects of a strong wind. He said that he compensated by ensuring that he "hit my fairways and hit my greens."

Colbert had rounds of 71 and 67 to win with a two-under-par 138.

YOUR CPN LEGISLATOR NEEDS YOU!

CPN members, would like to receive regular e-mailings of information from your Citizen Potawatomi Nation legislator? Please send him or her an e-mail. Please include your name, e-mail address, home phone number, cell phone number, and street address. Find your legislator's address and e-mail address at www.Potawatomi.org/Government/Legislature/default.aspx/.

Bill Williams, con't. from page 8

again. Arlene said when she turned 14 her Dad had a car she would tool around in.

"That's why I never smoked," Arlene said. "My friends were all smoking but I only got 50 cents a week in allowance. I could buy enough gas for my car for a week with 35 cents, but couldn't afford cigarettes," she said.

Along those same lines, when Bill and Leon had the produce store kids would come in the back door and help themselves to three eggs, just the price of admission to the motion picture show next door. "One day I was back there when a kid took three eggs," Bill said. "I said you're taking my eggs and the kids said no they're mine. I get them every week."

Bill said that went on until they quit accepting eggs as payment for the movie.

Things have definitely changed. "Yeah, I've seen a lot of things change in 99 years," Williams concluded.

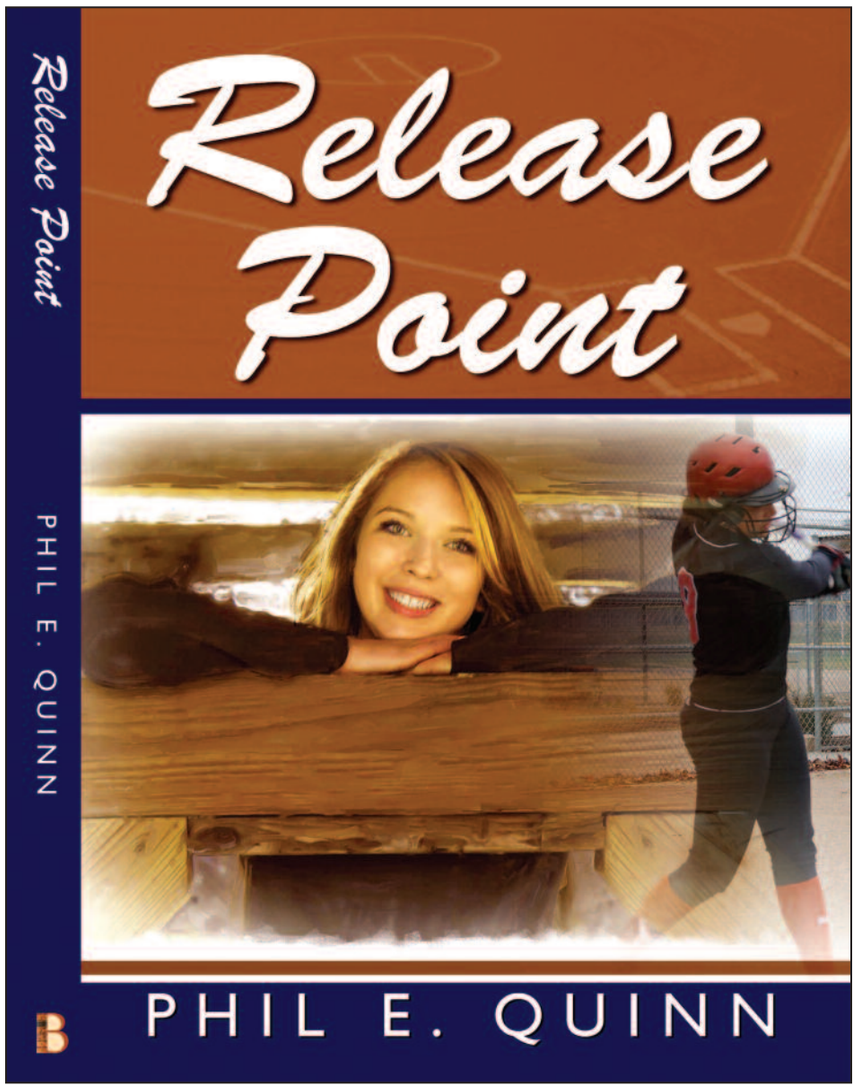
(Editor's note: The* HowNiKan *editor attests personally to those elements of this story which depict Bill Williams as a kind, caring, and interesting individual. Mr. Williams was my coach on the Purcell Indians 11-and-12-year-olds baseball team in the summers of 1962 and 1963, my first two in Purcell.)

Attention Veterans

To schedule the CPN Veterans Organization Color Guard, contact Herb Holton at 405-598-5984 or e-mail him at herb39h@valornet.com.



CPN member's new novel explores high school fast-pitch softball world



CPN member Phil Quinn, a resident of Rossville, Kansas, has a new novel on the bookstore shelves. *Release Point* is a story about high school girls' fast-pitch softball and lessons learned. Phil Quinn, was the assistant varsity softball coach at Wamego, Kansas High School during the 2012 season.

There is bad blood between the novel's two prominent families - the Dooleys and the Blackhawks. Charlene Dooley and Raven Blackhawk, one a pitcher and the other a power-hitting catcher, are rising stars in their sport of fast-pitch softball. The combative girls collide during a hotly contested game as pre-teens, leaving Raven injured and unable to compete for several years.

Despite her impairment, Raven continues working in the barn at home. She develops into an amazing pitcher while Charlene is the talk of the softball community as she pursues High School All-America status. But, things change when Raven decides to make a comeback as she enters her junior year of high school and Charlene is preparing for her senior year.

Fearful that Raven Blackhawk will not pass her sports physical, the entire student body at her school rallies behind her. They attend her eligibility hearing, which produces hilarious results.

But, this isn't their only concern. Disillusioned after consecutive losing seasons, not enough girls want to play softball at Raven's school. That forces the administration to consider canceling the season. To the delight of fans, a surprising group of girls comes to the rescue, filling the vacant roster spots.

As high school upperclassmen, Raven and Charlene lead their teams to undefeated regular seasons, setting up a winner-take-all showdown in the state championship game – a game with a storyline so compelling that it attracts ESPN and a national cable TV audience.

As the game concludes, the girls resolve their life-long conflict -and the game- in a shocking way that leaves the reader amazed and inspired.

Release Point is a must-read for any player, parent, coach, or fan of fast-pitch softball - or any youth sport. Learn more about the novel and CPN member Phil Quinn's public appearances at www.facebook.com/home.php#!/release.point.3.

Kiley Jones, the model on the book cover is a softball player. Additionally, Zoe Krump, the hitting model on the cover of *Release Point*, is an elite softball athlete, a rising junior at Blue Valley High School in Overland Park, Kansas.

Quinn says that male athletes in every sport are well-represented and documented in literature of all kinds, but female athletes are not, despite the number of girls participating in athletics at all levels continues to grow in this country and around the world.

Coach Quinn observed. "*Release Point* is an attempt to highlight the dedication, skill, and achievements of female athletes as they push the standard higher for excellence in competitive sports. "It's a story that will appeal to both genders, all ages, and especially parents, coaches, fans, and participants in all female youth athletics."

This is Quinn's first novel. He is currently at work on the next two in the series, *Contact Point* and *Focal Point*.

Release Point is now available through barnesandnoble.com and amazon.com. It can also be ordered through the publisher at www.BarringerPublishing.com

CPN Member Dustin Keen earns athletic, music scholarships





Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Dustin Keen is combining musical ability with athleticism to pay for a college education. The Holton, Kansas High School graduate will attend Baker University in Baldwin, Kansas. He plans to study Exercise Science and minor in music.

Dustin played football for Holton High School where he earned All-League, All-County, and All-Class honorable mention as an offensive lineman. He was offered, and accepted, a football and track scholarship at Baker University. (He is a track shot putter and earned a seventh-place medal at the state track meet this spring.)

Dustin is a descendant of CPN member Mary Schropfered. His grandfather is Karl Simecka, and CPN member Karla Bylund is his mother. In April, Dustin auditioned for a music scholarship at Baker University and was successful.

CPN Eagle Aviary is dedicated, con't. from page 1



seem to mind their presence. As they moved closer to the water's edge, a stillness moved across the river and time seemed to stop as the eagle peered down at her observers as if to say, "Goodnight girls, things will be alright." She dipped her head, spread her wings and flew right over them. They sat speechless, unable to move or speak.

Asked about the experience, Randell said, "That moment transcends words." The pair felt connected to the Creator, their mother, and everything around them. At that moment, a spark ignited an uncontrollable passion to learn all they could about eagles and other raptors. In that moment, they were both forever changed.

Randell and Dunham returned to those banks of the Illinois several times that winter. They were able to monitor bald eagles on two different nest sites, which they continue to do to this day. Once back to their routines at work at a Braum's store in Chickasha, Oklahoma, they saw a newspaper story about the Kaw Lake Eagle Watch. They travelled halfway across the state with no idea that was not the only purpose for their trip.

They learned of a scheduled presentation to be given after the conclusion of the lake tours by Victor Roubidoux from the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Bah Kho-je xli Chi (The Grey Snow Eagle House) Iowa Tribal Aviary. Roubidoux was prevented from speaking because he had gone to rescue an injured bald eagle. Oklahoma Raptor Center wildlife rehabilitator Gary Siftar who works closely with the Bah Kho-je xli Chi spoke in his stead.

Siftar's enthusiasm and passion for the birds was evident as he began to talk about the Iowa Tribal Aviary and the need for more aviaries. He said that, eagles that are injured in the wild and unable to be returned, are more likely than not to be euthanized.

Unable to believe what they had heard, Randell and Dunham eagerly waited to talk to Siftar and his wife Kathy in-depth about the Iowa Aviary and how the Citizen Potawatomi Nation might start such a venture. Soon, they learned that an Aviary could serve not only as a means to save the Creator's great messengers, but also provide a source of naturally-molted feathers. That could eliminate CPN members' need to rely on the Federal Repository for feathers for religious and ceremonial uses. Wait times for requested feathers are often months and sometimes years. Randell said, "A CPN Aviary would give our people a chance to connect once more with the live eagle."

In the early months of 2008, Randell and Dunham arranged to meet with CPN Chairman John 'Rocky' Barrett and Vice Chairman Linda Capps to discuss the idea. An aviary such as this would require a lifetime commitment from the pair and the tribe; thus, much thought and consideration went into undertaking the endeavor. (In captivity, eagles can live 40 to 50 years.)

Soon it became clear that Chairman Barrett wanted to move forward and look further into the idea. They scheduled a trip to the Iowa Aviary. Arriving in Perkins, Oklahoma, they were amazed at the size of the facility, on a hill near tribal headquarters. While standing in the flight cage with the eagles, Randell realized that this is what she was always meant to do. A few short years ago, she said, she "could not have dreamed about doing this, but in that moment she could not imagine ever doing anything else."

Iowa tribal aviary administrator Roubidoux was eager to have them tour his facility; he offered to help in any way possible, showing his blueprints, offering training, and giving experienced advice about the Tribal Wildlife Grant (TWG) that had helped his tribe start its aviary.

On a return visit to Perkins, Vice Chairman Capps accompanied Randell and Dunham to get a feel for the project. Soon afterward, the 16-member CPN Legislature voted unanimously to move ahead with an application for the Tribal Wildlife Grant.

At Roubidoux's instruction, Randell and Dunham began their training the moment they arrived home. And, they joined the IWRC (International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council). The IWRC offers training for the rehabilitation of many different kinds of wildlife.

Randell and Dunham began to take classes and attended a three-day Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation Lab seminar in Arkansas. Randell said, "If anything was a test to see if we were cut out for this journey, this trip definitely was. The labs consisted of several stations of assessments and treatments of cadavers - and after lunch, no less."

Randell and Dunham said they have completed many online courses, also. These include instruction in Wound Management, Fluid Therapy, and Pain Management. The courses allowed them to begin accruing the hours of instruction needed to earn federal for permits.

At the end of March 2008, they traveled to Colorado to train with Sigrid Noll Ueblacker, founder and Executive Director of the Birds of Prey Foundation. There, they attended various lectures, seminars, and hands-on courses.

But, however much could be learned in the classroom, the bulk of training is required to be the hands-on variety. Once they were home, the pair continued to use vacation time and days off work to squeeze in training at the Iowa Aviary. The CPN tribe continued to work as well, submitting a Tribal Wildlife Grant in September 2008.

Because they cannot contain their passion when it comes to anything related to eagles, Randell and Dunham are often referred to as the "Eagle Ladies." "In October of 2008, we were given a tiny article about a Kiwanis Club luncheon where an eagle would be present," Randell related. "We went but felt terribly out of place and almost left."

However, the business at hand was brief, and the eagle presentation began quickly. Bearing his mother's staff of eagle feathers, Comanche tribal member Bill Voelker, founder and Director of "Sia The Comanche Nation Ethno-Ornithological Initiative" stepped forward. Voelker explained that Sia is the Comanche word for feather.

He spoke of their work, from his time spent at Cornell University, to artificial insemination of eagles and the release of more than 300 captive-produced Bald and Golden Eagles during a time when Bald Eagles were considered an endangered species.

He went on to explain how Sia draws from a wide cross-section of the Comanche culture but always circles back to the eagle because of its importance to the Comanches. "We eagerly awaited our turn once the presentation ended, to speak more of this and ask to visit their facility because they were so close to Chickasha where we then lived," Randell said.

Voelker told Randell and Dunham that he had heard of them and their desire to start a CPN aviary project. HE invited them to visit Sia. During their first visit, it became clear that this could be a wonderful training opportunity with not only Bald and Golden Eagles but eagles from around the world. Randell and Dunham inquired about opportunities spend extended time at Sia. Voelker accepted.

Since then, 'The Eagle Ladies' have spent many hours learning about raptors, caring for eagles in captivity, handling glove-trained birds for educational programs, caring for eagle feathers, learning how to honor the past in preserving tradition and the spiritual connection shared with these birds.

When the time came for announcement of the 2009 TWG recipients, the CPN was not on the list. "We were definitely disappointed and had hoped that we would receive our first grant," Randell said. "But, we were determined and so was the tribe. We submitted a second grant that fall."

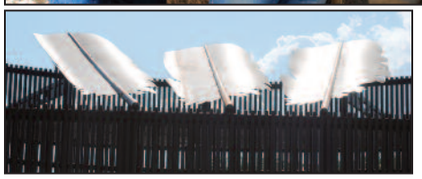
It was becoming clear that Randell and Dunham could no longer work at their jobs in Chickasha and make a full commitment to the CPN Eagle Aviary project. With faith in the path the Creator had put them on, they both quit long-held jobs to focus more on their training.

Thanks to the quality grant-writing team at the CPN, the second grant request was funded in the spring of 2010. Randell and Dunham began their move back to their hometown - Shawnee. The first concrete, for the aviary foundation, was poured in December 2011; construction was finished shortly before the facility was dedicated on June 29, 2012 - Randell's birthday.

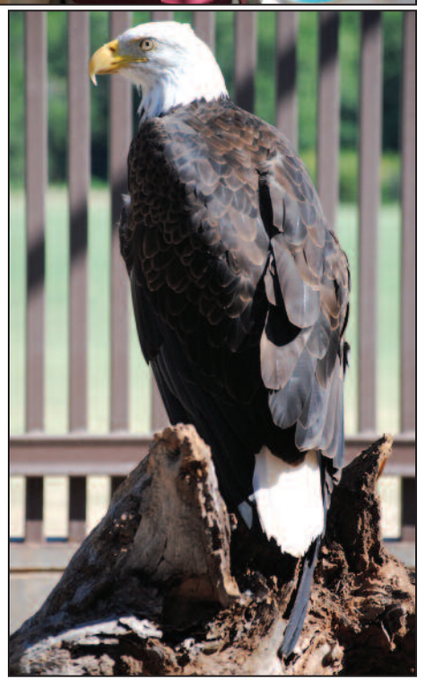
At that dedication ceremony, Dr. Benjamin Tuggle, Southwest Region Director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, signed the CPN Eagle Aviary's federal permit. Randell said, "We have been so fortunate along this journey to have had the support of our tribe for this project and our vision."











Randell pointed out that the CPN Eagle Aviary "is not permitted to do rehab at this time, so we would not do release yet. We do still save eagles' lives, giving them a permanent home."

She added that "without the people we have met along our journey, we would not be where we are today or have the same vision for this project." Dunham said that the pair "have gained so much strength and knowledge along the way and without those people doing the great work they do, making a way for other tribes, we would not have had this opportunity."

Dunham believes that the pair "have a great support from people like Nelson Luna from the Zuni Tribe's Aviary, who received the first tribal aviary permit to house non-releasable eagles, Victor Roubidoux, whose facility was the first to be permitted to rehabilitate and release eagles back into the wild, and Bill Voelker of Sia, who received the first propagation of Golden Eagles under the tribal aviary permit."

Thinking back over the course of events, Randell said, "Our families have been so supportive, and there are countless others who played important roles along the way. I can never thank them enough. We owe them a great debt of gratitude for their support and guidance."

"But," she added proudly, "we have big shoes to fill, with great expectations from all of these people who have touched our lives. We will do our best for the tribe and our people to make them proud. It is a great honor for me that we can serve our people in this capacity."

Above left, an aerial photo of the aviary displays its unique layout and the adjacent land that is available.

Joe Early, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service tribal liaison, Southwest Region, Chairman John Barrett, Dr. Benjamin Tuggle of the Fish and Wildlife Service, and 'Eagle Ladies' Jennifer Randell and Bree Dunham inside the facility. The stunning eagle feathers that serve as a shade-producer over one of the aviary entrances shine brightly in the late June sun.

North of the aviary itself, Randell and Dunham have constructed the framework for two wigwams. Experience has taught them that Tabasco sauce is a good deterrent for beavers who can and will damage the frames.

And, this is who it's all about - one of the eight eagles who currently call the aviary home.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center
1899 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, Oklahoma
Call 405-878-5830

Kansas elders visit Sugar Creek Mission Memorial

In May 2012, a group of 15 Potawatomi elders in Kansas made a trip to Sugar Creek Mission near Osawatomie, Kansas. The trip was coordinated by the Senior Support Network in Kansas. The Sugar Creek Memorial, also called St. Philippine Duchesne Memorial Park, is the end of the Trail of Death. More than 850 Potawatomis were forced to Kansas from northern Indiana by the government in 1838.

"*...the Mission Band Potawatomi arrived at Osawatomie, Kansas on November 4, 1838, winter was coming on and there were no houses, despite the government promise. The newly-arrived Potawatomis heard about Sugar Creek Mission about 20 miles south and moved there. Though they still had no houses, they found shelter along the steep rocky walls of the creek bank, where they could hang blankets and keep warm with camp fires. Thus, they spent that first winter in Kansas. Father Hoecken recorded that by March, all of the Potawatomi had moved down to his mission.*" - www.potawatomi-tda.org/kansas/sugarcre.htm



Pictured above are Bourassa descendants, from left, Jon Boursaw, Judy Hill, Helen Worthington, and Robert Brown.

More than 600 Potawatomis died at Sugar Creek Mission from 1838 to 1848, and the grounds at Sugar Creek Mission in St. Philippine Duchesne Memorial Park are home to the more than 600 unmarked graves. The Linn County Historical Society obtained burial records for the Sugar Creek Mission and translated them from Latin to English so when Potawatomi tribal members visit the site they are able to locate their ancestors' names. The names of the deceased have been inscribed on metal plaques and attached to wooden crosses in the field were many Potawatomis are believed to be buried. The Bourassa descendants on this trip were able to find several of their ancestor's names inscribed on the plaques.

The elders were also able to see other landmarks and memorials relevant to their family history, culture, and Catholic religion at St. Philippine Duchesne Memorial Park. The elders were able to view the ruins of the buildings that were used to house and teach the girls and the priest's housing. A small group even walked the stations of the cross, each station is marked with a stone pillar, marble picture representing the station and a plaque denoting its meaning. One brave tribal member made the hike down the steep ravine of Sugar Creek to view wells and the area where the Potawatomis spent their first winter.

The elders stopped in Osawatomie on the way back to Rossville and had lunch at the Whistle Stop Café' and enjoyed some socialization and sharing about what they learned or enjoyed most at Sugar Creek. The elders said that they felt the trip was "educational," "fun," and an overall "great experience."

Several said they appreciated the Senior Support Network providing transportation to the memorial because they would not have been able to go on their own, and they were glad they were able to see this important part of their family history.

The Senior Support Network/Kansas would like to thank Jon Boursaw and Phil Quinn for driving vans to the Memorial and Ola May Earnest and the Linn County Historical Society for their hospitality, educational presentation, and everything they do to improve, preserve, and maintain the grounds and monuments at the Sugar Creek memorial.





Pictured above, left to right (back row), are Charles Worthington, Helen Worthington, Robert Brown, Hurb Adams, Mary Prickett, Dorothy Coder, Jim Coder, Jon Boursaw, and (front row) Felicia Brown, Jack Hill, Judy Hill, and Bonnie Hull. Pictured immediately above, from left are Helen Worthington, Jon Boursaw, and Robert Brown.

CPN member Anderson earns OU Multi-Culturalism Award



CPN member Ashley Anderson, center, accepts the OU Health Sciences Center Multi-Culturalism Leadership Award from University of Oklahoma President David Boren, left, and another University official.

The 2012 University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center Multicultural Native American Achievement Award has been presented to a Citizen Potawatomi Nation member. Ashley Anderson, whose mother and father, Craig and Kim Anderson are residents of the Dallas, Texas area, was working toward a Master of Sciences Degree in Nutritional Sciences.

Anderson earned the award based on her Health Sciences Center Campus Involvement; her community involvement, community service, and cultural activities during her time as an HSC student; her involvement in professional organizations while an HSC student; and honors, awards, and scholarships she earned at HSC.

Attention CPN Veterans

All Citizen Potawatomi Nation veterans are encouraged to contact Stacy Coon at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center. Stacy's contact information is Stacy.Coon@Potawatomi.org, 405-275-3121, or 800-880-9880.

We would like to ensure that Stacy and, therefore, Veterans Organization members know when CPN veterans have been hospitalized or have experienced a death in the family. This allows us to respond more quickly and appropriately to that veteran's needs.

Additionally, please ensure that Stacy and the Veterans Organization have current contact information for you.

William Haskell Keith died in January 1965 cruiser crash

New Del City Police facility dedicated to CPN member's memory

If you ever have business with the Del City, Oklahoma Police Department or Municipal Court, you'll notice the name on their new home as you approach: William Haskell Keith. As you walk into the facility, you might devote some thought to the too-short life of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation member whom the building's name honors.

Keith had been a Del City police officer for just 26 days on January 12, 1965 when he sustained injuries that took his life a week later. At 10:53 p.m. on Tuesday, January 12, 1965, Del City Police Sgt. John Dickinson, 42, and rookie officer Keith, 26, became involved in a high-speed vehicle pursuit. During the pursuit, Sgt. Dickinson fired at the fleeing vehicle with his revolver and shotgun while Keith drove.

Near the intersection of S.E. 74th Street and South Sunnylane Road, the police car went out of control, hit a telephone pole at an estimated 80 miles per hour, and rolled over into a ditch. Harry Kenneth Turoczi, 19, was arrested the next day and charged with eluding police and several other charges.

Officer Keith died of his injuries a week later at 1:20 a.m. on Tuesday, January 19, just his 33rd day as a police officer. His wife Carolyn and three young children survived Officer Keith. Sgt. Dickinson survived his injuries.

In mid-July 2012, Del City and state officials, residents, law enforcement, and others braved the midday heat for the building's dedication to the only Del City police officer to ever die in the line of duty. The new building is on S.E. 29th street just east of Sunnylane Road. Many of Keith's surviving family members attended the dedication and open house. "We've been talking about this day since I walked into the old station in 1980," Assistant Chief of Police John Smith said.

Planning of the 18,000 square-foot building came in fits and starts, beginning as early as 1979. Design and engineering of the headquarters finally began in 2008. Construction started in September 2010 and the building was completed in March 2012. The $4 million headquarters was paid for with a temporary sales tax. New amenities include a bright and spacious courtroom.







Above, William Keith was just 26 when he became the first, and so far only, Del City, Oklahoma police officer to die while on duty. Upper right, a plaque honoring CPN member Keith greets visitors to the new Del City police department facility. Below right, a 1953 Chevrolet Police car sits in the front parking lot.

The jail can hold 10 individuals and includes a drunk tank. Walls in the cells and in the hallway are painted pink. Police Chief Phil Taylor said the soft pink walls have a calming effect on the prisoners. "I think it does help, and it doesn't hurt," he said. Inside the building are a state-of-the-art dispatch center, laundry and shower areas, more than 32 surveillance cameras, and enhanced security. Doors to the Sally Port, where prisoners are brought, in close automatically after 60 seconds, and public access doors are timer controlled. The headquarters also has geothermal heating and cooling.

After the groundbreaking on August 31, 2010, Jeremy Keith said he feels a variety of emotions when he thinks about how Del City is honoring his father. "It took him a little while to get to this point, being a police officer," Keith said. "He was in the Air National Guard. He worked for the Post Office." (Ironically, the Del City Post Office is next door to the site of the building that will bear William Keith's name.)

"Finally, he got to his dream job," said Keith. "Sadly, he was taken away from the job that he was looking forward to doing for the rest of his life."

"Sometimes, you want to bury it, and it kinda brings up old memories,, he added. "But, in another way, I'm honored that they're continuing what he sacrificed for my generation, my grandchildren and for future generations."

Jeremy Keith says that his father will always be his hero. "He was my fire. He was my guidance. He was my drive."

YOUR CPN LEGISLATOR NEEDS YOU!

Due to privacy concerns, CPN legislators are not routinely given your street addresses. So, you as CPN citizens need to reach out to them! If you are a CPN member and would like to receive regular e-mailings of information from your Citizen Potawatomi Nation legislator, please send him or her an e-mail the legislator's e-mail address.

Please include your name, e-mail address, home phone number, cell phone number, and street address.

You can find your legislator's address and e-mail address at www.Potawatomi.org/Government/Legislature/default.aspx/.

CPN member to pursue medical field



Brittnie Tipton

Brittnie Tipton, the daughter of Citizen Potawatomi member Richard Tipton and Teresa Tipton of Vinita, Oklahoma and granddaughter of the late Robert G. Tipton Sr., graduated from Welch, Oklahoma High School on May 20, 2012. Tipton was named Top Scholar and Valedictorian of her class with a GPA of 4.25.

Her activities included Desktop Publishing, Vice President of the Student Body, Treasurer of FCCLA, President of BPA, President of NHS, and Vice President of Services in Phi Theta Kappa at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, where she attended for the last two years, and Art Club. Additionally, she has served as a volunteer at Craig General Hospital Renaissance.

Tipton plans to attend Rogers State College in Claremore, Oklahoma in the fall to pursue a nursing degree, then pursue a degree in Anesthesiology.

Tipton recently competed in the Business Professionals of America event in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, representing Welch Public Schools in March 2012 for the third year in a row. She placed second in her field of Desktop Publishing, earning a trip to BPA Nationals in Chicago, Illinois in May 2012. There, she competed with thousands of other BPA students from across the United States and placed 32nd in the nation in her competition. Tipton would like to thank everyone who helped make this trip to Chicago possible through their generous contribution. Without that assistance, Tipton said, she would not have been able to travel to the National Competition.

INVITATION NO. 26

NOTICE OF SALE OF DRY LAND FARMING AND/OR GRAZING LEASES TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 14, 2012 AT THE CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE SERVICES ON THE SALE OF FARMING AND GRAZING LEASES ON TRUST RESTRICTED INDIAN LAND TO BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 25, CFR 162.

SEALED BIDS, for Farming and Grazing leases on the following described tracts of land will be received at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation (CPN) Office of Real Estate Services, until 2:30 P.M. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2012. AN ORAL AUCTION WILL BE CONDUCTED IF THERE ARE MULTIPLE BIDS ON SAME TRACTS. All bids received up to the hour of the sale will be opened at that time and leases awarded to qualified bidders offering the highest annual cash consideration, if such bids are deemed adequate and are acceptable. On a tract receiving only one bid, the bidder will be given one opportunity to improve the bid. All bids opened at the time of the sale will be taken under advisement and reviewed by Real Estate Services staff with successful bidders to be notified of the lease award by mail. All bids must be enclosed in separate envelopes addressed to CPN Department of Real Estate Services, 130 E. MacArthur, Suite 204, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804, and marked plainly "SEALED BID FOR DRY LAND FARMING AND/OR GRAZING LEASE SALE TO BE OPENED AT 2:30 P.M., SEPTEMBER 14, 2012."

NOTE: ITEM NUMBER OF BID MUST BE PLACED ON FRONT OF ENVELOPE.

ALL BIDS ARE SUBJECT TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR. THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS PRIOR TO THE APPROVAL OF ANY LEASE CONTRACT MADE ON AN ACCEPTED BID.

IMPORTANT TERMS:

1. The leases will convey exclusive dryland farming and/or grazing rights, subject to the reserved right of the lessor to grant business leases, oil and gas leases, rights-of-way, hunting leases/permits and other legal grants as provided in the prescribed lease form. **HUNTING AND FISHING RIGHTS ARE NOT CONVEYED TO LESSEE.**

2. The lease will be for a term not to exceed five years (5) from January 1, 2013, unless otherwise specified and determined by the CPN Department of Real Estate Services.

3. Leases approved pursuant to this notice will be executed and granted by the Southern Plains Regional Director, unless otherwise indicated. With the exception of single owner, the Indian owners of the particular allotment involved will not be required to sign the lease as the approving official signature granting the lease pursuant to Congressional Authority will adequately convey and lease the respective Indian owners' interest.

4. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a satisfactory surety bond, (letter of credit, cash bond, or certificate of deposit may be substituted for surety bond when application is rejected by the surety company) to be held at the Southern Plains Regional Office for the duration of the lease term.

5. The successful bidder will be required to provide insurance in an amount adequate to protect any improvements on the lease premises.

6. The Additional Lease Requirements (Revised 1976-SMC Stipulation Sheet) will be executed and made a part of the lease. Interested bidders are encouraged to confer with Land Operations Contractor, Walt Emory, relative to the land use or conservation program at phone numbers (405) 598-3757 or 598-3758.

7. Bids shall be submitted on the regular lease bid sheet which is attached. Additional copies may be duplicated using the attached form.

8. The following cancellation clause is to be made a part of the lease as noted: " In the event the land is advertised for public sale and sold as a result thereof, the lease shall terminate at the end of the lease contract year following the lease contract year in which the land is advertised. The rental hereunder for the remainder of the term of the lease shall be reduced by an amount equal to the use value contributed by the portion or portions sold to the entire premises." The Secretary shall be the sole and final judge as to the rental adjustment.

9. A provision is incorporated in each lease contract granted as a result of this advertisement to the effect that the lessee agrees to release a portion or portions of the lease premises for homesites as required by the lessor or Regional Director.

10. All leases will be drawn on an approved Department Form at the CPN Real Estate Services Office. Successful bidders shall return completed leases with all supporting forms and the lease fee amount within fifteen days from the date of Receipt of Lease Packet. (Additional time may be requested)

11. Rentals are due and payable on January 1 of each year, unless an approved lease modification provides for a change in the schedule of payment.

12. The following rate or schedule of fees on all leases will be required from the successful bidder before a lease may be approved.

ALL RENTALS: 3%. In no event shall the fee more than $500.00.

13. ON THOSE TRACTS IN WHICH AN UNDIVIDED RESTRICTED INTEREST IS OFFERED FOR LEASE, BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED AND CONSIDERED FOR THE UNDIVIDED RESTRICTED INTEREST ONLY. THE PROSPECTIVE LESSEE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR RENTAL PAYMENT TO THOSE OWNERS OF THE UNRESTRICTED INTEREST.

ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS MADE THE DAY OF THE SALE WILL SUPERCEDE ANY INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.

Further information concerning this advertisement may be obtained by contacting Gus R. Porter, Assistant Director, Department of Real Estate Services, 130 E. MacArthur, Suite 204, Shawnee, OK 74804, at telephone number (405) 395-0113 or-1-800-880-9880.

Charles P. Meloy, Director of Real Estate Services
Issued: July 23, 2012
BID ON FARMING AND GRAZING LEASE SALE # 26
DATE OF BID: September 14, 2012
DATE OF SALE:
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
Department of Real Estate Services
130 E. MacArthur, Suite 204
Shawnee, OK 74804

Sir:
Submitted herewith is my bid for farming and grazing lease on Indian land pursuant to your notice. Please return a copy to me after the sale, denoting whether my bid is accepted or rejected. Additional bid forms will be furnished on request. (Be sure to state number of years and amount to be paid.)

ITEM NO. AMOUNT PER YEAR $ YEAR(S)
ALLOTMENT NO. ALLOTTEE NAME:
IMPROVEMENTS:

Minor improvement proposals will not be considered as a part of the Bid. The only improvements which can be considered are new boundary line fences which are constructed with all new material.
*I understand that the bid I am submitting is for the undivided restricted interest only. I understand that I am responsible for rental payment to those owners of the unrestricted interest.
Name of Bidder (PLEASE PRINT) Signature:
Address:
City: State: Zip: Area Code & Telephone Number:

TO BE COMPLETED BY DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE SERVICES

The above bid for farming and grazing lease on Item No. is:

Rejected: Accepted: Under Advisement: Documents to follow.
Please advise if you have any questions, (405) 395-0113.
Date:

Director, Department of Real Estate Services

ADVERTISED LEASE SALE # 26 – September 14, 2012

Any lease granted herein will be for grazing and dryland farming only. The Lease does not grant use of existing houses or the right to place mobile homes upon the leased premises.
CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION
130 E. MacArthur, Suite 204
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804

Item No. - Allotment No. - Acres - Allottee Name - Land Description & Information

Pottawatomie County

1. CP-42 (821 42) 80.00 Annie Kahdot An undivided 1/1 restricted interest in the SE/4 NW/4 & SW/4 NE/4 of Section 28, Township 06 North, Range 05 East Indian Meridian, Pottawatomie County, OK.

2. CP-62-E (821 62 E) 30.00 Josette Bennett An undivided 1913/2160 restricted interest in the E/2 NE/4 NW/4 & E/2 W/2 NE/4 NW/4 of Section 17, Township 06 North, Range 05 East Indian Meridian, Pottawatomie County, OK.

3. CP-97 (821 97) 80.00 Clarissa Mars An undivided 146/165 restricted interest in the E/2 NW/4 of Section 7, Township 06 North, Range 05 East Indian Meridian, Pottawatomie County, OK.

4. CP-219 (821 219) 24.73 Alexander Rhodd An undivided 2053/2450 restricted interest in Lot 03 = E/2 S/2 SE/4 NE/4 & S/2 S/2 SW/4 NE/4 of Section 33, Township 08 North, Range 05 East Indian Meridian, Pottawatomie County, OK.

5. CP-S-697 (821 S 697) 80.00 Pos-so-ship-she-wa-no An undivided 91919/129360 restricted interest in the N/2 NW/4 of Section 28, Township 06 North, Range 05 East Indian Meridian, Pottawatomie County, OK.

6. CP-748 (821 748) 40.00 Joseph Lewis Acton An undivided 1/1 restricted interest in the N/2 N/2 SW/4 of Section 31, Township 09 North, Range 05 East Indian Meridian, Pottawatomie County, OK.

7. CP-809 (821 809) 80.00 Frank Davis An undivided 1/1 restricted interest in the N/2 NE/4 of Section 15, Township 07 North, Range 04 East Indian Meridian, Pottawatomie County, OK.

Cleveland County

8. CP-367 (821 367) 80.00 Peter Tescier An undivided 275777/403200 restricted interest in the NE/4 NW/4 & NW/4 NE/4 of Section 23, Township 07 North, Range 01 East Indian Meridian, Cleveland County, OK.

9. CP-900 (T2) (821 900 T2) 80.00 Madeline Denton An undivided 193/270 restricted interest in the E/2 NE/4 of Section 7, Township 07 North, Range 01 East Indian Meridian, Cleveland County, OK.



Rep. Paul Wesselhöft maneuvers Wheel-Along



At right, Rep. Paul Wesselhöft has managed the taxing task of using the powered lift to maneuver himself from the van behind him to the parking lot. At left, he is nearing completion of a third difficult part of his journey, maneuvering his way through a narrow entrance door.

(Oklahoma City, OK) - Wheeling Around Town (WHEELING), a website and blog dedicated to reviewing Oklahoma restaurants for "wheelchair-friendly" accessibility, has announced its Wheel-Along Challenge. "We invite public officials, reporters, bloggers and celebrities to "wheel along" with us on one of our Restaurant Accessibility Reviews," said Paul Cardin, founder of WheelingAroundTown.com. "We'll provide you with a wheelchair and ask that you remain in the chair as we navigate the parking lot, the ramp, the inside, and the bathroom. We'll tell you what to look for in the bathroom, but you're on your own there."

Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Paul Wesselhöft of Moore, Oklahoma was the first to accept the challenge. Wesselhöft is a member of both the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the CPN Legislature. "Rep. Wesselhöft was the first to wheel along with us," Cardin added. "On this first Wheel-Along, we were joined by Steve Stokes, the Director of the Oklahoma Office of Disability Concerns."

The Wesselhöft Wheel-Along was held on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at a Moore restaurant. The lawmaker says his first experience, as he maneuvered a wheelchair inside a lift-equipped van, was that he was becoming hot and sweaty. "I'm already learning that that is part of the deal - the exertion, the muscles it takes to maneuver."

Wesselhöft said that, as soon as the lift deposited him on the parking lot concrete, he faced another problem. There was very little room in which to maneuver the wheelchair onto the sidewalk. A third obstacle was just seconds ahead. With considerably more difficulty than people who are not in wheelchairs, Wesselhöft was able to pull the restaurant's front door open and semi-struggle his way inside.

The restroom, which was not handicapped-accessible, was another chore. It was a matter of forcing the wheelchair through the door, maneuvering it into position alongside the stool, and hoisting himself onto it. Wesselhöft praised this particular restaurant for having plenty of room in which to maneuver the wheelchair in the dining area. He has eaten out with wheelchair-bound friends in restaurants in which the dining room floor is so cluttered that tables had to be moved to accommodate a wheelchair.

Rep. Wesselhöft said he will continue pursuing his efforts to increase fines for able drivers who park their vehicles in handicapped-accessible parking spaces. And, he urged his fellow Oklahoma legislators to take part in the Wheel-Along experience, so they can legislate on issues affecting the disabled and do so with an understanding of their needs.

WheelingAroundTown.com was founded by Paul D. Cardin in an effort to assist wheelchair-bound Oklahomans, families, and care-givers. Cardin has been in a wheelchair for the past eight years due to progressive disabilities. The website identifies establishments that are prepared to serve disabled customers looking for a quality dining experience. Restaurant owners also benefit from the service by supporting Oklahoma's disabled community as potential customers.

Orioles draft CPN member John Russell's son

CPN member William 'Steel' Russell begins pro baseball career in Florida

BOSTON - Another version of *Family Ties* is airing in the Baltimore Orioles organization. On June 6, the Orioles selected Ryan Ripken, the son of Hall of Famer Cal Ripken, in the 20th round of the First-Year Player Draft. A bit later, they used their 32nd-round pick on Midland, Texas College catcher William 'Steel' Russell, a Citizen Potawatomi Nation member and the son of Orioles bench coach John Russell

Steel Russell sat in the visiting clubhouse at Boston's Fenway Park when the Orioles contacted him. Steel held up his cell phone as a signal to his father that he had just been drafted. "It's great," said John Russell, a former Major League catcher and the one-time manager of the Pittsburgh Pirates who was the 13th overall pick by the Phillies in the 1982 draft.

"He worked real hard this year and had a lot of accomplishments. Some of our scouts saw him play and were very pleased," John Russell said. "He came up and did a workout, and they really liked what they saw. I'm very proud. For my son to be drafted, and especially by the team that I'm with right now, is something I'll cherish forever. Just to see the look on his face, it's something I'll never forget."

Russell added, "Now it's up to him, and he's very excited about going out and playing and getting after it. He's got a lot of ability and some good upside as a left-handed hitting catcher.

"Not only is catching a premium nowadays, but to be a left-handed hitter, as well, that's one of the reasons they were very interested in him. We were fortunate that the Orioles were really the only team that got a peek at him, so it was good that he didn't go a little higher to somebody else. I'm happy that he's with us. He's got the tools and the ability, and left-handed hitting catchers are a good commodity to have in the organization."

John Russell tried to steady his nerves as the draft approached. "I was very nervous, but I couldn't let him know that, so I tried to play it real cool," he said. "Try to be strong for him. I told him things were going to work out just fine. It was a relief to see his face when he was over on the sofa and he saw his name come up. I know he's very excited. It's going to be fun. He found out before I did. Then (Orioles manager) Buck



(Showalter) came out and said, 'Congratulations.' So, it's very exciting. It really is."

Steel, who transferred to Midland College from Ohio State University, said it's been "a stressful couple days, but definitely worth the stress, definitely worth staring at my phone for ... 72 hours. It's really cool to be able to share this with my dad and be part of his organization. It's something you don't think about as a kid, but as you get older you realize it might be a possibility down the road. To actually have that happen is pretty amazing. I'm just excited to start playing. I'm looking forward to it.

"My dad actually wanted me to come in for the draft so when it did happen, if it did happen, I could share with him and also he could kind of tell me where do I go now, what happens now. So I came here and hung out here the last few days. My mom was also here. She flew in. My stepmom was here, my girlfriend was here, so I got to share it with all these people, which is the best thing in the world to be able to share the moment with the people I love. I'm just really excited and ready to go."

It had to be a surreal moment for him, to have it all unfold a few feet away from his father and surrounded by major league players. "Yeah, how many kids even get to get drafted, get that opportunity to be in that clubhouse, in the major league clubhouse of the team they get drafted by?" he said. "I can't imagine anything like that ever happening to most people, but I'm fortunate enough for my dad to be who he is that I was able to share it with him in the clubhouse. Buck came out and congratulated me, which is, like I said, not many kids that get drafted have the manager of the big league club come out and say 'Congratulations.' It's something I'll never forget, being able to do that here.

"This moment, I can't even really express how I feel right now. I don't think it's totally kicked in right now. I'm just really excited to be able to share it here and experience it here in this clubhouse with all these big leaguers, and thinking I have a shot. It's pretty surreal."

So how long before Steel is bumping (Orioles starting catcher) Matt Wieters to first base? The mere suggestion of it made him laugh. "As my little brother told me, he said, 'Hey, if you get drafted by the Orioles, when you get to the big leagues, you'll be Wieters' backup," Steel said. "I'm just going to go out and play and see what happens from there."

Steel Russell has received the proper instruction from his father, who knows a thing or two about catching. "He's been outstanding," Steel said. "I've got a very good and very experienced coach to go to in my dad. We've talked a lot over the last 20 years about catching. Even in Little League, he'd say, 'OK, we're going to try this and this and this.' I'd tell him what I needed help on, and he was always quick to help. A very good coach, easy to listen to. Didn't chew me out, just guided me along. Between him and my mom and my stepdad and my stepmother and my family, I've had so much support that I wouldn't be here right now if it weren't for them. I love them so much. They've done so much for me.



At left, catcher Steel Russell consults with his pitcher in an amateur summer league game in 2011. Above, John Russell (#77) makes a pitching change in a Baltimore Orioles game earlier this season. Steel Russell has begun his professional career in a rookie league in Florida on an Orioles farm team.

"I'm glad that it's come to fruition today."

William 'Steel' Russell is six feet tall and weighs 192 pounds. He is a left-handed hitter and, as a cather, a right-handed thrower. He has begun his pro career in the Gulf Coast rookie league in Florida. Through his first 11 pro games he was eight-for-33, a .242 batting average, with no extra-base hits and two RBI.

View
CPN Legislative meetings
On www. Potawatomi. org

We'll see you at
Family Reunion Festival 2013!!
June 29 & 30 and July 1

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority

The staff of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority invites you to visit their office at 44007 Hardesty Road, three miles east of the CPN Administration Building.

Get in-depth information on all of the Housing Authority's programs to help place Citizen Potawatomi members in better-quality housing.

Call 405-273-2833 or 800-880-9880 or contact the Housing Authority via e-mail at recarried@ Potawatomi.org.

CPN members enjoy Thorpe, Mills exhibits

Exhibition, "Best in the World: Native Athletes in the Olympics"

by Cheri Soliday-Schubert

In mid-July, more than 40 Citizen Potawatomi Nation members joined CPN District #2 Rep. Eva Marie Carney at The National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. to learn more about two American Indian Olympic athletes. The exhibit looks at Native athletes who have provided some of the most dramatic moments in Olympic history.

Special attention is paid to the 1912 Games in Stockholm, Sweden. That's the Olympics that made a legend of Citizen Potawatomi/Sac & Fox athlete Jim Thorpe. Billy Mills (Oglala Lakota) also shares the spotlight.

Thorpe's legend, already growing because of his gridiron exploits at Carlisle Indian School, was cemented when he won both the Pentathlon and the Decathlon in 1912. Mills attended the exhibit on Saturday, July 14, along with the CPN members.

You'll remember that Mills staged an amazing come-from-behind win to take home the 10,000-meter gold medal from the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. He re-lived that race for his audience, And, a painting of the triumphal moment was unveiled.

The painting was commissioned by the World Olympics Museum in Switzerland and was painted by the subject's wife, Pat Mills, MFA. Pat Mills began the program with a brief historical look at how she and Billy became the people they are today. "Being asked to do a painting of Billy Mills for the World Olympic Museum for the permanent collection, I began actually reflecting on our journey as well," she said.

When Pat was 9 years old she began to do pencil drawings, while sitting on the porch of her great-grandmother's farmhouse on the Kansas prairie. One summer evening, she picked up a pencil and began drawing. "It was a child's drawing and nothing more," she told the audience.

But at the same time, she knew that was what she was meant to do. That same summer, at the Pine Ridge Reservation, a 12-year old Ogallala Lakota Sioux was mourning the loss of his father. Billy Mills had been very close to his father who had always encouraged him to chase his dreams. Through this, another dream was born. Billy wanted to become the best.



Standing alongside a painting by his wife Pat, Olympics legend Billy Mills addresses an NMAI audience that included more than three dozen Citizen Potawatomi Nation members.

Pat Mills showed a film of the final moments of her husband winning the Tokyo gold. At the very last moment, the runner least expected to win surged past both Ron Clarke, an Australian, and Mohammed Gammoudi, a Tunisian, winning in the American-record time of 28:24.4. That was nearly 50 seconds faster than Mills had ever covered that distance. No American has come close to winning the Olympic 10,000 meters since.

The Millses said that, when they met with the World Olympic Museum, they quickly realized Native American values and virtues paralleled with those of the Olympics. Thus, the idea for the painting was born.

The painting encompasses light, color, passion, and the spirit of winning as well as Native imagery and influences from the hearts of the Gold Medal winner and his talented wife. It was unveiled and at the same time projected onto a large screen at NMAI. Billy Mills took the stage to discuss his famous story and issues surrounding how Global Unity of 156 countries has become Unity Through Diversity.

Billy Mills told the Citizen Potawatomis and others in the audience that it was his father's words, relayed in a call from his sister, "We love you Billy," and the support of his loving wife that gave him the power to make his dream happen on that glorious 1964 day in Japan. He said that other words form his father were under his skin and in his heart that day: "Believe, Believe, Believe."

Billy Mills was inducted into the United States National Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1976. In 1984, he was inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame.

"Too many young people are taking their own lives," he told his audience. He teaches the values he learned from his father, look deeper into yourself, bravery, fortitude, generosity. He remembers his father telling him to journey to his soul, find humility, and become centered. Be unique. "I realized I needed a dream to heal a broken soul," he said.





Above top, Pat Mills unveils the portrait of her husband that will hang in the International Olympics Museum in Switzerland.

Above, 1964 Olympics gold medalist Billy Mills smiles as he tells his story.

Photos by Cheri Soliday-Schubert.

Mills also serves as the spokesperson for Running Strong for American Indian Youth, an organization that helps support projects that benefit the American Indian people in particular young American Indians. He produced a book, Lessons of a Lakota, does speaking engagements and sponsors events all meant to encourage American Indian youngsters.

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Alice Greenwalt: A Lifetime of Service

by JoAnne Dyer

You read about Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Alice Greenwalt's award for 75 years of teaching Bible study to adults and children in the last issue of the *HowNiKan*. This issue, Alice shares more about her family, her faith, and her genuine love for people.

Perhaps it was her large family filled with nieces and nephews that gave Alice her enormous love for children in particular. She began teaching Sunday School in 1937 at the tender age of 13. Was it intimidating to inspire the kindergarten age group as a young teen? Maybe not so much: Alice found that children sometimes respond to teenagers better than they do to adults. And children "have no problem believing in God," she said, "and they have such a love for everyone." When teaching adults, she says she often learns more from her students than they learn from her, bringing her many thoughtful questions and discussions.

Further, Alice says her work doesn't really come from her. "I really don't feel like I do the teaching. I talk, but the Holy Spirit does the teaching," she said. She'd often prepare a Bible lesson beforehand, but while teaching, something true and inspiring would come to her that she hadn't planned to say. Perhaps that's why her favorite Bible verse comes from Philippians 4:13: I can do all things through Christ.

Alice even met her husband through church, though she's quick to point out that she was at church "every time the door was open" long before she met him. She had lived a simpler life of faith and family; neither of her parents ever drove a car, so most of her time was spent at home or at church.

Her future husband came knocking on her door one day, looking for a home -one with a piano- to host a church revival. He was attending Oklahoma Baptist University and Immanuel Church at the time. Together they hosted a revival that led 12 people to the Lord -- and one, Alice, into marriage.



CPN member Alice Greenwalt, third from left, poses on her front porch with, from left, her grandson Jason Greenwalt, her daughter Marti, and her son Noel.

Six boys (David, Galen, Noel, John, Roger, and Truett) and one daughter (Marti) followed. Looking back, she's not sure how she juggled the many demands of her large family's early years. "It had to be the Lord multiplying my time," she said. Now, however, she has time to cherish her 15 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. One more great-grandchild, a boy, is on the way.

Not one to leave the church's needs behind, however, she hasn't completely retired from teaching Bible study. She's still substitute teaches at First Baptist Church of Tecumseh.

Alice and her family found themselves moving often, including to Texas and California. One of their more exciting moves was to Germany in the 1980s. They spent over six years in Germany, doing mission work geared mainly toward U.S. servicemen. The servicemen had been holding church services in their homes, but they longed for the churches they had known back home. Alice says that the servicemen became like their own children.

She Alice said that people from all over the world, including India, joined them in worship. Perhaps more important, Alice and her husband inspired parishioners to step out of the pews and into helping others. "You find joy through service," she said. Many parishioners continued serving others long after they returned home to their own churches, which Alice finds especially gratifying even today.

Now a resident in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Father Joe Murphy housing, Alice is now a grateful recipient of the Potawatomi spirit of service. She feels well taken care of by the CPN family. Without even asking, she has help mowing her lawn or shoveling snow. A medical clinic - and assistance to get to appointments- is close by when she needs it. "I take pride in being a Potawatomi. They are great people," said Alice, whose father was Potawatomi. "They take pride in what they do, and they take care of each other."

Attention CPN Veterans

All Citizen Potawatomi Nation veterans are encouraged to contact Stacy Coon at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center. Stacy's contact information is Stacy.Coon@Potawatomi.org, 405-275-3121, or 800-880-9880. We would like to ensure that Stacy and, therefore, Veterans Organization members know when CPN veterans have been hospitalized or have experienced a death in the family. This allows us to respond more quickly and appropriately to that veteran's needs.

"The Native American Speaks"
on KGFF-AM (1450)
or KOKC-AM (1520)
or www.Potawatomi.org

2012 Election Results

The lone issue up for a decision in the election held during the 2012 Family Reunion Festival was the budget governing use of earnings from the Citizen Potawatomi nation Set-Aside Funds. Two members of the CPN Legislature were on the ballot. However, neither of the pair, District #12 Rep. Paul Schmidlkofer of Tecumseh, Oklahoma and District #9 Rep. Paul Wesselhöft of Moore, Oklahoma, drew an opponent. Both were thus re-elected to four year terms in the Legislature.

The budget for the Set-Aside earnings was approved by a total vote of 1229 to 108. In Oklahoma, the vote was 390 to 45. In Legislative District #1, it was 123 to 8. The vote in District #2 was 118 to 8. It was 97 to 9 in District #3. The District #4 vote was 82 to 7.

In District #5, the proposition earned approval by a vote of 122 to 7. The District #6 vote was 104 to 4. Approval in District #7 was by a vote of 106 to 13. And, District #8 voted for it by a count of 87 to 7.

"The Native American Speaks"
on KGFF-AM (1450) or KOKC-AM (1520)
or www.Potawatomi.org

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Women, Infants, Children (WIC) Nutrition Program

The WIC program provides nutritious supplemental foods to program participants using vouchers. The WIC program serves as an adjunct to good health care during critical stages of a child's growth and development.

For more information, contact the Specialist in your area: Director Shelley Schneider; Shawnee Area, Tammy Wood, 405-273-3216; South Oklahoma City Area, Angie Igo, 405-632-4143; North OkC, Shalan Pearson, 405-232-3173; Prague, McLoud, and Perkins, Sarah Dailey, 800-880-9880.

District #8 Tribal Gathering
Wasilla, Alaska ~ June 23, 2012



And, the CPN members knew they had arrived on a cloudy summer Alaska day.

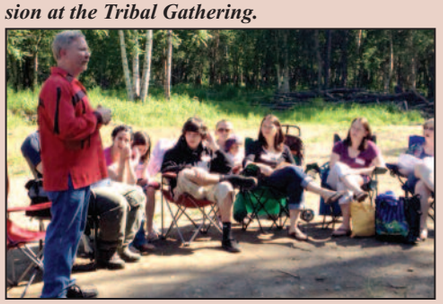
Marilyn Summerhays accepts a gorgeous blanket for being the Wisest Potawatomi at the Gathering.





Rep. Carney performs a Naming for CPN member Carry Shorthill.

District #8 Rep. Dave Carney leads the discussion at the Tribal Gathering.





Rep. Dave Carney explains Potawatomi tradition to young Luke Kimpton.

Rep. Carney performs a Naming for Don Summerhays, center, as his parents observe.





Young Dax O'Brien was the Youngest Potawatomi at the Gathering. He is shown with Rep. Carney and his mother, Anne O'Brien.

Rep. Carney performs a Naming for CPN member Heather Cortez (in blanket) with daughters Mya and Ava and husband Dave Cortez.



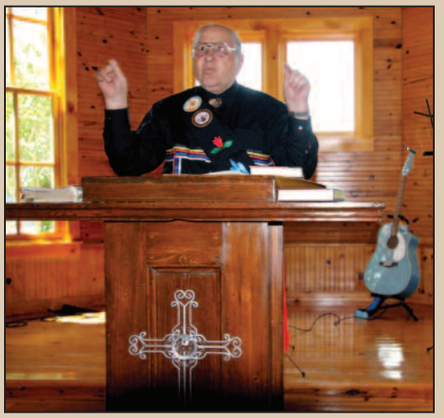


Amanda Kimpton, left, and Sophia Carney assist with preparation of the prayer circle.

Family Reunion Festival



















Some young Citizen Potawatomi Nation members enjoy a basketball pick-up game in the photo at top right. Other tribal members pursue a more cerebral competition - the chess tournament. At top right, CPN member Joe David Melot delivers the message in the Sunday morning church service.

At left in the middle row, CPN member Clyde Slavin speaks at his father, Robert Slavin's, memorial service. During that service, the Slavin family also memorialized Teresa (Slavin) Reed, who died at age 109 in May. Veterans Organization members Max Wano and Rep. David Barrett fold a flag for presentation to the family during Robert Slavin's memorial. The cemetery across the street west of the CPN clinic was the scene for the 5K run. And, one of the clowns who entertained children during the weekend prepares a balloon animal.

At left above, tribal members learned from a Cultural Heritage Center diorama. At right above, the CPN Veterans Organization color guard leads the Saturday night Grand Entry.



















Citizen Potawatomi Nation members took advantage of the opportunity to learn more about careful, attractive shawl-fringing. The Citizen Potawatomi grounds were in top shape, and were kept clean during the Family Reunion Festival, with the new water tower looming over proceedings. And, two of the handgames teams ready themselves for spirited competition.

While Horseshoes Tournament competition was hot and heavy, the competitors remained shaded from the heat. CPN children had access to many fun activities for the three days of Festival.

The swimming pool at Peltier Park offered a respite from the June Oklahoma heat. At the General Council meeting, 101-year-old Nila Locke was awarded a Pendleton blanket as the Wisest Potawatomi in attendance. And, a left-handed CPN youngster gets some tips as he competes in the mini-putt tournament.

















The opportunity for Citizen Potawatomi Nation members to visit the Sacred Heart church and grounds, with historic structures and remains means a lot to them. At top left, a sculpture of Christ on the cross adds serenity to one of the cemeteries at Sacred Heart. Top center, two members walk out to investigate what remains of the Sacred Heart bakery. And, the Sacred Heart church, with its stunning red roof remains a captivating structure.

An aerial view of the grounds in and around the CPN Administration Building and Peltier Park, shot late on Saturday morning during Festival, shows a busy, well-attended event. The lifeguard looks to the safety of swimmers seeking relief from the heat. The volleyball competition closed the 2012 Family Reunion Festival on Sunday afternoon.

A new attraction at this Festival, and a very popular one, was the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile. At center above, CPN Veterans Organization Vice Commander Daryl Talbot, left, and Commander Joe David Melot report on the group's activities during the General Council meeting.